

HALSEY ENTERPRISE

An independent—NOT neutral—newspaper, published every Thursday, by Wm. H. & A. A. WHEELER.

Wm. H. WHEELER, Editor.
Mrs. A. A. WHEELER, Business Manager and Local News Editor.

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HALSEY, Linn Co., Ore., May 18, 1922

THE PRIMARIES

Tomorrow will be decided who shall make the race in the fall election as the candidates of the parties.

The Enterprise is interested in the political parties, as it is in any other evil that affects the American public.

In a field of candidates for any office, other characteristics being equal, its preference would be for a farmer and against a lawyer especially.

Lawyers make our laws and spit hairs over them and sit on judicial benches and declare them valid or invalid, and what one of them holds to be valid another argues is utterly inconsistent with the constitution.

If a body of farmers could make a more useless, self-contradictory set of laws than these lawyers declare their handiwork is, then we would like to see it as a curiosity.

The farmers cast more votes than the followers of any other occupation, and they get less consideration at the hands of those whom they help to elect. If they would they could nominate Mr. Patterson for governor, and elect him at the polls. We love Governor Olcott for his votes, but he himself must run the judgment that led him to let loose the lawmakers in two raids on the treasury in addition to their regular sessions. The probability is that he who gets the republican nomination will be governor next term.

The grange and the Farm Bureau are not in politics, but their members can and ought to be, to the extent of making the elections in some measure reflect their views.

The men who are now scrambling for places in the legislature will tell you afterwards, if elected, that the compensation is small and the berth undesirable, and then will turn loose upon the treasury all "their sisters and their cousins and their aunts."

Two representatives in the legislature from this district are to be elected. There are no democratic candidates yet. Candidates for the republican nomination are Robert S. Aheson, P. B. Beatty of Brownsville and Charles Childs of Albany. Childs has held the office longer and accomplished less than anybody else. He worked hard for one more graft on the public—a board of film censors—at the last regular session but failed to land the plum for anybody. W. C. Templeton of Brownsville had one term and was satisfied. Perhaps he found the road to success crooked among the gang that gathered at Salem, Park Beatty would try for it. A new broom might sweep cleaner than the old one, which carries an accumulation of rubbish—of germs, maybe.

JOCKEYING FOR THE START

The numerous candidates for governor are warming up and the present electoral contest is not such a languid affair as the last.

Charles Hall is vigorously attacked by Ike Patterson as being high in the Pacific telephone monopoly, and the proofs are complete. It does not do Hall much good to deny this as a personal attack. There are so many voters smarting under what they deem extortion by the company that Mr. Hall will surely lose votes on the issue.

To offset the effect of the monopoly charge Mr. Hall has joined hands with the K. K. K. and has the public indorsement, secretly

arrived at, of the "invisible empire."

Governor Olcott, concededly the candidate with the longest odds in his favor, counters against Hall with a proclamation calling for the suppression of illegal parades in mask, of which the K. K. K. is guilty, and for opposition generally to an empire within an empire.

It may be possible for these three leading republican candidates to stir up such dissension in their party and make such hopeless rents in it that a democrat may win at the polls, but this is not likely.

Will someone kindly tell us the boundaries of that region which is vaguely described by the term "Near East?"—Albany (N. Y.) Journal.

It is a portion of Asia Minor where the Turks commenced butchering Christians the moment they learned that the United States, the only power that had caused them to refrain from the practice, had decided to "go it alone" and let Armenian and Greek Christians perish. Its final boundary will be reached when the last Christian there has been slaughtered.

Governor Olcott strikes a responsive chord when he calls for the suppression of K. K. K. or any other body of men who parade masked and unidentified, armed or unarmed. He correctly declares that Americans cannot tolerate an "invisible empire" which imposes penalties on individuals without due process of law. The oftener such marauders are prepared for their own funerals, as near Los Angeles the other day, the better.

The supreme court of the United States did a full day's work Monday. It knocked out the federal anti-grain-gambling law and the federal law taxing articles made by child-slave labor. Those judges are the real American aristocrats. They hold office for life and are responsible to nobody for their decisions. And no recall can hit them either.

The Enterprise does not know whether the recall candidates for public commissioners would be satisfactory or not. Probably nobody could. But we do most unhesitatingly wish for the abolition of that and nearly all the other commissions. The taxpayers cannot afford to maintain them and they do little good.

Portland and the northwest had an earthquake alarm Monday morning. If it had waited until Friday night we might have thought it was caused by candidates who, from great heights of expectancy, came down with the proverbial dull thud.

Charles Childs says on the primary ballot: "Strictest economy in appropriations; lower taxes; abolish commissions." He has been in the legislature longer than any other member. How much has he accomplished in the line of this election-day motto?

Who will be governor? K. K. K. says: "Of all sad words of tongue or pen the saddest are: 'We may have Ben.'"

Robert Tuney was injured so severely in a boxing match at San Francisco on the 10th that a fatal result was feared. Of course, it's a noble sport!

Peggy Joyce says she "must have men." Well, how many? She has had several.

Prof. English spent the week end with his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth English, at Eugene.

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Real Estate and Insurance

Acknowledges the Corn

A newspaper editor rejects more items than he accepts, and the most serious errors he commits are in not rejecting more than he does. In the effort to make an interesting publication the temptation is strong to publish what appears to be a good story which appears plausible on its face, even though there is no time to run it down to its source and ascertain the truth of all its details by positive evidence.

The Enterprise is no exception. It sometimes publishes what it believes to be a correct statement only to find that the evidence on which it relied was faulty. But we try to avoid that kind of errors.

Recently we criticized a statement sent out by the Associated Industries of Oregon regarding the Brownsville woolen mills. A copy of the Enterprise containing the criticism was sent to that organization at its headquarters in Portland and elicited the following good-matured response.

Associated Industries of Oregon, 702 Oregon Building, Portland, Wm. H. & A. A. Wheeler, Dear Sir and Madam: Well, we acknowledge receipt of marked copy of the Enterprise, and, more than that, we have to "acknowledge the corn."

We are a bit chagrined about this because it is near home and, in our enthusiasm, we overshoot the mark to the extent of saying in our industrial note of optimism that the mills were ready to reopen, which was based by a writer on preliminary casual conversation with Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bowman, however, did say that when the mill was ready to run there was plenty of business in sight, all of which, of course, was regarded as helpful for the spirit of the times.

We are glad you checked us up on this and it will have a good effect in making us extremely cautious about these matters in the future.

We sincerely hope that you will not regard with suspicion and distrust everything that emanates from the Associated Industries hereafter. We hope that the rule of evidence as to witnesses' credibility will not be applied in this case.

When you come down to Portland, either of you, I hope you will find time to come in and see me, and the lunch will be on me. Yours very truly, Associated Industries of Oregon, D. C. Freeman, Manager.

Resisted Temptation

Thomas F. Ryan, candidate for the republican nomination for state senator, relates that when he was a deputy under Kay in that office he had charge of the purchasing by the state of some bonds through Morris & Co., the Portland bond brokers who recently went to the wall. John L. Etheridge negotiated the deal for the com-

pany and he dropped a roll of many thousands of dollars on Mr. Ryan's table.

Ryan says he called a couple of clerks to count the money to have witnesses if needed, and turned the amount into the state treasury.

When the Morris books were under scrutiny Etheridge expressed solicitude for the result of the finding of the record of this payment by the company.

"Have no fear," answered Ryan. "That money went into the state treasury."

"Great Scott!" (or words to that effect) said Etheridge. "Do you mean to tell me you didn't keep that money?"

"Just that," was the reply. And one of Etheridge's fears vanished.

Boy Scouts Go on Hike

Saturday afternoon the boy scouts hiked out to the Calapooia river near Brownsville.

Patrol Leader Ercell Sneed took charge of a patrol, consisting of Martin and Frank Koontz, Wilbur Norton and Harlem Morfield.

Then about 11 p. m. Dr. Garnjobat came out, accompanied by his son Dick and Gilbert Miller.

The evening was spent in a real outdoor style after the camp was established. The first thing of interest was a ball game, then campfire stories.

After Dr. Garnjobat arrived and set up his camp and had spent the night in peace with a few buddies, Ercell Sneed's force charged the intruder with the intention of raiding his grubstake, but after battle the two camps assembled and had breakfast together. Then after a hearty meal the boys went on an observation hike, by which they learned several things of interest.

About 11 o'clock Sunday morning the scouts returned home well pleased with their experience and declared they had had a "bully good time."

About Those Bonds

Mr. O. P. Hoff, State Treasurer, Salem, Oregon.

Dear Mr. Hoff: We hereby offer to repurchase from the state of Oregon, the entire list of Oregon municipal bonds sold to you as state treasurer by Morris Brothers at the full and exact basic price that you as state treasurer paid to Morris Brothers for said bonds, plus accrued interest to date.

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Morris Brothers Corporation.

WHERE YOUR TAXES GO

(by Edward G. Lowry)

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XVII.

NO REWARD FOR LOYALTY

What can a man hope for who enters the government service as a career? Let us look at some actual cases. Here is the story of one as told by E. J. Ayers, chief clerk, Department of the Interior. He cites it as a case similar to that of many others in his department, and says there are many others who are in worse circumstances:

"The records of our department show that he entered the service as a laborer at \$600 a year, after a service of three and a half years in the United States navy as a first-class fireman, with an honorable discharge. He has been with us for more than thirty-three years, and is sixty-six years old, and has given more than half his life to the service of the government.

"He owns a little property three miles beyond the Chesapeake Junction, and he gets up early in the morning, before daylight, and comes in to work and goes out after dark at night. Today he is getting \$840 a year. He has raised a family of nine children—three of whom are now dead—eight boys and one daughter. His elder sons are married and have established homes of their own. Two of his sons were in the military service in France, and his daughter, twelve years old, lives with her grandmother, where he is supporting, educating and clothing her.

"He is a white man, a very intelligent man, eminently qualified for this particular line of work. His wife is dead. He is his own housekeeper and he does the cooking and the washing and the ironing.

"His home was established in its present location because it was not thought practicable to raise a family in the district, and he bought a piece of property in Prince George's county three miles beyond the railroad terminal, which distance, as I said, he walks twice a day, leaving in the morning most of the year before daylight, and returning home by dark. This small place consists of a shack and a few acres of land on which he has a mortgage of \$1,000, and you can judge that he enjoys no conveniences other than the small house, which protects him from the elements.

"The house is divided into four rooms, the partitions being of paper tacked to the framework, there being no laths or plaster.

"The small stove standing in the center of the room he has used for more than twenty years, and the pot on the stove contains his Sunday dinner, which he has prepared for himself, consisting of white navy beans and fatback. These beans are now costing him twenty-five to thirty cents a quart, and the fatback costs him forty cents a pound. It could have been purchased a few years ago for seventeen cents a pound, and the beans for ten cents." He does not get any fresh meat because he cannot afford to buy it.

"To my mind it seems a pity that the United States government should employ men of that type, or any other type for that matter, and not give them enough to live on decently. It is particularly a pity in this case because he is somewhat superior to many of the employees. He has stayed with us as a matter of faithfulness to the government, and has stayed with us when he could make more in one week outside of the government than we pay him for one month.

"Others have left us, but instances of that kind have been very few. At one time I had in our auditorium our employees and I made an appeal to them to stand by us during the war period, and there were more than 800 of them present, and they all of one accord assured us that they would stand by us and would give us the benefit of their labor in our department during the war period, notwithstanding the fact that the price for labor outside was a great deal more."

This curious pride in their work and loyalty to the government and the government service was a thing that cropped up in the most unexpected places.

As one employee put it: "I think you will find that every service seems to be quite proud of its work. I know you will find it in our service as far as compensation and such as that are concerned. The pay in this office is small, but that element, that feeling in a man's mind that he is really helping to accomplish good work and helping this government to function well, is really part of it. I find in all my talks with employees that they really feel proud of their work, and that pride is really what gets things done. I think that is true everywhere in the whole service, and particularly throughout the executive departments."

That is curiously true, and it is one of the reasons, possibly the chief reason, why men stay on in the departments year after year at a low rate of pay and not much possibility of promotion.

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