

HALSEY ENTERPRISE An independent—NOT neutral—news paper, published every Thursday, by WM. H. and A. A. WHEELER.

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HALSEY, Linn Co., Ore., Aug. 10, 1922

GREAT IS THE ALIBI

Mr. Weller's trust in the power of the alibi is shared by many crooks today. Burglars are known on occasion to carefully instruct their pals, before the fact, to testify on trial that the principal was somewhere else when the crime was committed.

Striking labor unions, when violence is visited upon employers or strikebreakers, spring the alibi by declaring the offenders were not strikers nor members of their organization, but unknown outside sympathizers.

In the Eaglewood incident at Los Angeles the alibi of the raiders was shocked when an officer of the law put identification marks on three of the hooded raiders, firing raid marks from a gun. Klansmen declared that the lawless raid was not the work of the order and the fact developed that the meeting adjourned and the crime was planned by the adjourned members. Great is the alibi!

In the Jacksonville investigation it was testified that leaders taught klansmen that they could properly swear that they were not members of the order, saving their consciences with the theory that they were members only while attending a session. The plain English names for such a cowardly course are "perjury" and "treason."

The proper defense against a coward who violates the law under cover of darkness and a mask is to mark him with a piece of lead for identification, whether the mark goes through the heart or only breaks a limb. Against such a mark the alibi fails.

The proposed income tax is not class legislation, as its opponents claim. The rich are not in one class and the poor in another in America. The proposed law would derive public funds from those who are able to pay. That is the whole case in a nutshell, and the opposition comes from those who are able to pay and who want to compel the weak to bear the same burden as the strong.

"It was farmers who originally demanded and finally obtained the direct primary legislation, so their enemies. Yes, and the system brought back to the farmers some of the power of which the bosses had succeeded in depriving them. The farmers can get justice under our government if they will pull together, as so many other interests do.

The question is asked: "Who are the twelve greatest men in Oregon?" If Senator Stauffer were in Oregon it would be easy to name one of them. No other Oregonian is able to stay at home tending a profitable sheep business half a year at a time and continue to draw full pay for services supposed to be rendered in Washington.

We could look with equanimity at the high rate of automobile fatalities at railroad crossings as a process of improving the race by the elimination of fools if it were not that the drivers take unoffending passengers with them when they commit suicide by running their cars in front of trains.

A religion which parents cannot sufficiently instill into the minds of their children outside of the few hours of the secular public schools need lots of bolstering.

We are getting weary of Oregon being dry. Let us pray—for rain.

SENIORITY FORFEITED

So Ruled the Federal Railroad Labor Board

New York. — The keynote of the reply made by railway executives representing more than 180 Class 1 railroads of the United States to the proposition of President Harding that "All strikers be returned to their work and their former positions, with seniority and other rights unimpaired," lies in the last paragraph of their reply to the president, as follows:

"It is submitted that the striking former employees cannot be given preference to employees at present in the service without doing violence to every principle of right and justice involved in this matter and without the grossest breach of faith on the part of the railroads to the men at present in their service. Under these circumstances, it becomes apparent that the railroads cannot consider any settlement of the present strike which does not provide protection to their present employment both to the loyal employees who remained in the service and to the new employees entering it."

The executives had accepted the first two conditions proposed by the president, namely, that both employers and employees accept the decisions of the labor board, and that all law suits growing out of the strike be withdrawn; and in relation to the third condition state, not only as above, but also as follows:

Agree With the President. "The railroad executives and managers agree entirely with the president's statement in his letter that it is wholly unthinkable that the railroad labor board can be made a useful agency of the government in maintaining industrial peace in the railway service unless employers and workers are both prompt and unquestioning in their acceptance of its decisions.

"Many men in the service refused to join the strike and in so doing were assured of the seniority rights accruing to them and of the permanence of their positions. On some important lines 50 per cent or more refused to join the strike. To these old loyal employees have been added thousands of new men who were employed and could be secured only upon a definite promise that their services would be retained, regardless of the settlement of the strike, with all the rights appertaining to such employment, including that of seniority under the working rules and regulations previously approved by the railroad labor board.

"Just the Opposite Effect." "We especially point out that a refusal to the old men who remained in the service and to the new men who accepted service of the rights of seniority incident to their employment would have just the opposite effect to that desired by the president, and would most seriously discredit the labor board.

"The board itself prescribed the rules of seniority under which the men referred to have secured their seniority rights, and the railroad companies have neither the legal nor moral right to deprive these men of those rights. By public utterances since the strike began the board has recognized and emphasized these rights, and to deny them now would, instead of upholding the authority of the labor board, overthrow its rules and discredit its authority. The chairman of the labor board at the time the strike was called made the following public statement:

"Upon one question the striking employees should not be deceived. Their leader has said that the strikers are no longer employees of the railroads, and they have thus automatically abandoned all the rights they possess under their agreements and under the decisions of the board, including their seniority. It is their own. Many strikers are giving their former employers the opportunity to re-enter the service within a limited time. It must be understood now that men who remained in the service and those who are now entering it will have rights of seniority that the board could not ignore.

What the Proposed Plan Means. "It must be understood that any proposal that employees now on strike shall be permitted to return to the service without impairment to their seniority, is merely another way of suggesting that those men who took employment in this crisis in good faith, relying on the promises of the railroads to protect them in their positions, these promises being justified by the authoritative utterances of the labor board, and thus have made possible the continued operation of the railroads, shall now be sacrificed in favor of men now on strike, who not only brought about the crisis, but, by their own action and declaration, are no longer employees of the railroads, under the jurisdiction of the United States Railroad Labor Board, or subject to the application of the transportation act.

"In addition to the necessity of upholding the labor board and maintaining the pledges made by the railroads to the men now at work, there is the practical effect on the supervisory officers of a violation of the pledges they were authorized to make. Their discouragement and demoralization would be far more disastrous than that of any other strike."

In Missouri the republicans expect to defeat a divided democratic majority in the election of a senator, and in Oregon the democrats have the same kind of a hope for a gubernatorial victory. "Divide and conquer" is an old motto.

A Walla Walla bootlegger was shot in the leg by a prohibition officer. In the bootleg, we suppose.

TRUCKING

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IT'S TRAVEL TIME Round Trip Fares afford greater savings in travel costs this year. SOUTHERN PACIFIC SAN FRANCISCO LOS ANGELES SAN DIEGO Via "the Scenic Shasta Route" and to BACK EAST CITIES Through California "The Way to See More of the U. S. A."

Has Watched Halsey Grow

A quarter of a century ago a young physician was advised by an Albany fellow-practitioner to locate in Halsey. He visited this place and stopped at the hotel a few days without telling anybody who he was or what his business, further than to inscribe his name on the register.

He found a store or two, blacksmith shop and a few residences, and a few rivers of mud called streets. And it rained all day every day.

The young M. D. decided that he had seen all he wanted to of Halsey, but before going home went to Albany to tell his friend why the prospect failed to appeal to him. The Albany man and another of the profession talked to him to such purpose that he faced about, came back to this town and hung out his shingle.

More or less practice came to him and he found his patrons more prone to paying their bills than had been the case at his former location. The outlook improved over his first impressions, for in time he married a local girl and they set up their home here.

For twenty-five years Dr. Marks has practiced medicine here. He made Shedd his home for an interval, but even then he was in Halsey nearly every day, and he returned and again became a resident of this city. His first wife died and in time he married another Halseyite and a son has grown to young manhood.

He has seen the city make the greater part of its growth and the streets improve until all of them are navigable by wagons (and automobiles) the year around, and now one of them has a modern type of pavement. The country roads, too, have mostly been re-demanded from the status of canals of mud in winter. There are none of them with which he is not familiar, and in obeying the calls of his practice he has seen every step in the improvement of each of them.

In the homes along all of them are growing up citizens whom Dr. Marks helped to bring into the world, while helping many others to stay.

The medical practice has grown and now the increased population supports two practitioners instead of one, and they work in as complete harmony and co-operation as do the people of this quiet burg.

This summer the doctor decided to make this place his permanent residence (twenty-five years was only a transient period) and has bought and remodeled the house which he and his family occupy and made an up-to-date home of it.

Linn county schools gets \$15,047.90 from the state in this distribution.

W. J. Lane is displaying an interesting collection of rare metal and paper money in the window of his jewelry store in Brownsville.

Ash Swale people say the crops are nearer a total failure from drought this year than they ever saw before.

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The Strength Of The Pines by Edison Marshall Author of "The Voice of the Pack" Illustrations by Irwin Myers

BOOK ONE THE CALL OF THE BLOOD CHAPTER I Bruce was awakened by the sharp ring of his telephone bell. Instantly he was fully aroused, in complete control of all his faculties. And this is not especially common to men bred in the security of civilization. Rather it is a trait of the wild creatures; a little matter that is quite necessary if they care at all about living. Frontiersmen learn the trait, too; but as Bruce was a dweller of cities it seemed somewhat strange in him. Then he grunted rebelliously and glanced at his watch beneath the pillow. He had gone to bed early; it was just midnight now. He had no doubts whatever concerning the nature of this call. There had been one hundred like it during the previous month. His foster father had recently died, his estate was being settled up, and Bruce had been having a somewhat strenuous time with his creditors. He understood the man's real financial situation at last; at his death the whole business structure collapsed like the eggshell it was. Bruce had supposed that most of the debts had been paid now; he wondered, as he fumbled into his bedroom slippers, whether the thousand or so dollars that were left would cover the claim of the man who was now calling him to the telephone. "This is Mr. Duncan," he said coldly to the transmitter. "How do you do, Mr. Duncan? A voice answered. "Pardon me if I got you up. I want to talk to your son, Bruce." Bruce emitted a little gasp of amazement. Whoever talked at the end of the line obviously didn't know that the elder Duncan was dead. Bruce had a moment of grim humor in which he mused that this voice would have done rather well if it could arouse his foster father to answer it. The elder Mr. Duncan died last night," he answered simply. There was not the slightest trace of emotion in his tone. No wayfarer on the street could have been, as far as facts went, more of a stranger to him; there was no sense of loss at his death and no cause for pretense now. "This is Bruce speaking." He heard the other gasp. "Old man, I'm sorry," his contrite voice came. "I didn't know of your loss. This is Barney—Barney Wegan—and I just got in from the West. Haven't had a bit of news for months. Accept my earnest sympathies." "Barney! Of course." The delight grew on Bruce's face; for Barney Wegan, a man whom he had met and learned to know on the gym floor of his club, was quite near to being a real friend. "And what's up, Barney?" The man's voice changed at once—went back to its same urgent, but rather embarrassed tone. "You won't believe me if I tell you, so I won't try to tell you over the phone. But I must come up—right away. May I?" "Of course—" "I'll be there in a minute." Bruce hung up, slowly descended to his library, and flashed on the lights.