

# The Athena Press

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ATHENA, ORE., JAN. 10, 1913

## HE'S A LIVE ONE.

Oregon democrats are behind Herman Wise of Astoria for the office of Internal Revenue Collector and indications are that the man who does things in "the city by the sea," will be rewarded with the appointment he seeks. Mr. Wise has been identified with the party for many years and has a state wide acquaintance. He has been in the vanguard of the push that has developed the state, and the Press is sanguine that he is the best man in the state to succeed Mr. Dunne. The Astoria Budget, Mr. Wise' home paper speaks of him thus:

"Well done thou good and faithful servant." This is what all Oregon says about our fellow townsman Ex-Mayor Herman Wise, whose position in the ranks of Democracy has reached a point wherein he becomes the logical successor for the office of Internal Revenue Collector under the administration of President Wilson.

Our good friend Colonel Dunne, has served long and faithfully in the capacity of internal revenue collector. He concedes that there will be a change and the rightful person to be his successor is Herman Wise of Astoria.

Big of heart, energetic in action, prolific in wisdom, wise in council, good to his friends and full of resourceful ideas for the state and nation, Herman Wise becomes a personal resource in Oregon.

The rank and file of Democracy is behind this man for appointment to the office he seeks and has earned. By precept and example he has lived a useful life, served the public interest with zeal and capability as mayor of Astoria, postmaster under the Cleveland administration and with the Oregon delegation in the Baltimore convention straight in the Wilson column until the report echoed around the world—success.

Oregon needs live men. Wise is a live one by instinct and profession. No other single individual has done more to advertise Oregon and paid the expense out of his own pocket, than Herman Wise. He is a thoroughbred, whether at work or at play. He can see an idea through a four-inch plank and then know how to apply it. He is one of the biggest little men in the West. Whenever he has held public office he has always shown capacity enough to not only do his own duty but aid those under him to earn their pay. Because of his mental activity and foresight he has accomplished much good for the state; he can do more. He is willing to serve the people and the great state of Oregon will profit by his influence. Being in the prime of life and knowing men and measures so well fits him particularly for the position of internal revenue collector.

The commercial interests of the state can well afford to go behind Herman Wise and secure his services. In the federal position which he seeks there is no man better qualified to serve the national government, the state he represents and the people he is to serve.

Let Herman Wise be the one candidate for the office in Oregon and let the solid business men of the state stand back of him. His service to the state will be worth more toward the development of the commercial interests than the salary he receives.

Years ago it used to be a fashion among the several assessors in the state to make the assessment of the county which they represented just as low as possible and thereby escape the state tax, remarks an exchange. This method of proportioning the state tax has of course become obsolete and yet the records show that there is neither rule, reason nor uniformity among the several counties. The applications that come to the state school fund for loans show the inequality of assessment. These loans are based upon the assessment and all kinds of inconsistencies arise. This source of information shows by the applications that the lowest assessments made in the state come from Grant county and cite the instance of an application for a loan from a ranch of 160 acres that is appraised at \$5000 and assessed for \$665. At the recent election the people might have passed upon a confusing number of tax measures to remedy the defects that arise from the present system, but it is certain that the problems have not been solved and that as long as there are

elections and ballots and legislatures, politicians and those who sneak out and those who have little and pay no muck, there will continue to be tax nuts for the voters to crack.

Educators and parents who are skeptical of the value of examination marks will draw encouragement from the experiment recently conducted by Superintendent Harry L. Eby, of Alliance, O. An arithmetic test was given in the eighth grade and Mr. Eby sent one of the papers to all the teachers in his system, with a request that they grade it as if it were of a pupil in their own classes. The resulting percentages ranged from 40 to 95. In the eighth grade alone, where uniformity might have been expected, four teachers marked the paper, 50, 75, 89 and 90, respectively. In other words, one teacher would have failed the pupil outright; a second estimated him as fair; and the others considered him practically in the 90 class.

Oregon is pre-eminent among the states in the value and amount of standing timber, according to the state board of forestry. Not only that, but it has one-fifth of all the standing timber in the United States and now stands fourth in the annual cut of lumber. Oregon has approximately as much timber as all the states east of the Rocky Mountains, put together.

The Press is pleased to note that the Helix Advocate, the latest journalistic venture in the county, is improving with each issue. The Advocate comes to our desk this week in enlarged form and makes the announcement of other contemplated improvements.

**An Exciting Escape.**

Prince Kropotkin, the Russian revolutionist, once made an exciting escape from a fortress prison in St. Petersburg. After two years in the prison he had been removed to the jail hospital, where plans were matured by his friends for his flight. He was allowed to walk for an hour each afternoon, guarded by armed sentries in the grounds. A line of spies outside maintained a system of signals to notify the prince when the adjoining streets should be clear. When all was well a friend in a kiosk opposite the gate played upon a violin. After one or two false starts the violinist burst into a mad melody, and the prisoner, flinging off an outer garment, leaped for it. Sentries tried to stab him with their bayonets; others hesitated to shoot, believing that they could catch him. A carriage with a racing horse in the shafts was waiting. Into it he sprang, and they left at a gallop. His beard was cut off, his clothes changed, and he spent the first hours of his hiding in the best cafe in St. Petersburg.

**The Japanese Bath.**

One of the most detailed accounts of the Japanese bath in good native hotels which have not come under foreign influence is given by Mr. Starford Ransome in "Japan in Transition." It is commonly a rectangular structure of wood, let in so that the top is about flush with the floor, filled with cold water through a bamboo tube and heated by a fire underneath and by the sides. It states us to read that the water is rarely changed more than once or twice a day, so that from a score to a hundred of persons may use the same. But Mr. Ransome explains why this is not the dirty arrangement it seems. "It would be if the Japanese treated the bath as we do—that is to say, as a place to wash in—but he does not. He gets into his bath for the purpose of raising the temperature of his body after he has been thoroughly washed all over."—London Chronicle.

**First Lightning Rod.**

Nearly everybody believes that Benjamin Franklin was the inventor and constructor of the first lightning rod. In this particular they are mistaken, as the first lightning catcher was invented by a poor monk of Bohemia, who put up the first lightning rod on the palace of the curator of Preditz, Moravia, June 15, 1754. The apparatus was composed of a pole surmounted by an iron rod, supporting twelve curved branches and terminating in as many metallic boxes filled with iron ore. The entire system of wires was united to the earth by a large chain. The enemies of the inventor, jealous of his success, excited the peasants of the locality against him and under the pretext that his lightning rod was the cause of the excessive dry weather had the rod taken down and the inventor imprisoned.—Argonaut.

**Carlyle's Influence.**

Thomas Carlyle, "the sage of Chelsea," died without winning much personal popularity, a fact, however, which is forgotten in admiration of his genius. Carlyle exerted a greater influence on British literature during the middle of the nineteenth century and on the religious and political beliefs of his time than possibly any other British writer. He never wrote a line that he did not believe, and in regard to style he certainly had no superior. From the position of schoolmaster in an obscure village this great Scotsman rose to be a leader in the world of letters.—London Graphic.

**Agents Wanted.**

Men and women to represent the Farmers General Trading Co. of Walla Walla. Write C. R. Hetvey, 614 Baker Bldg.

**Notice.**

The regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Astoria, Oregon, for the election of directors for the ensuing year and for the transaction of such other business as may lawfully come before it will be held in its office in Astoria, Oregon, on Tuesday the 14th day of January, 1913, at the hour of 2 o'clock p. m. F. S. LeGrow, Cashier, December 2, 1912.

## Right and Left.

The old English words "right" and "left" have come into more and more general use, and that, too, with the help of other than English people. For have been changed on the ships of a German transatlantic line. Instead of ordering a change of course by the old terms, "starboard" or "port," as the case might require, the same orders are now given by the shorter word "right" or "left." The change was made in the German navy at an earlier day.

It was not long ago that the English word "larboard" was used where we now use "port." There is no difficulty in seeing that two such words as "starboard" and "larboard" were unfit for their use, as they sounded too nearly alike. They were also too long. There is need of short, sharp words, which are easily distinguished. Often there is no time to correct an error, and a mistake is fatal. "Right" and "left" are short and sharp enough. If they differed more in sound they would serve all the better.—St. Louis Republic.

## Up Against the Judge.

He was a Scottish advocate, and in his pleading he had several times pronounced the word "enow" for "enough."  
"Mr. —," the judge remarked at length, "in England we sound the 'ough' as 'uff'—'enuff,' not 'enow.'"  
"Verra weel, ma lord," continued the self possessed pleader, "of this we have said enuff, and I come, ma lord, to the subdivision of the land in dispute. It was apporioned, ma lord, into what in England would be called pluffland—a pluffland being as much land as a pluffman can pluff in one day, and pluffman—"  
But his lordship could not withstand the ready repartee and burst into a laugh, saying:

"Pray proceed, Mr. —. We know 'enow' of the Scottish language to understand your arguments."—London Tit-Bits.

## Geography of Blushing.

"Dogs blush," said a hunter. "Look at Carlo, I'll frighten him, and you'll see him blush plainly. Dogs blush in the tail."

He pretended that he was going to whip his hunting dog, and the animal showed the whites of his eyes in fright, while the skin of his white tail was, sure enough, suffused with blood. The tail blushed vividly.

"Horses," continued the huntsman, "blush in the ears, especially in the left ear. Cows and sheep blush just above the fetlock. Watch that spot on a cow. When she blushes there it's a sign she's nervous. Move the milk pail then, for she is likely to kick it over."  
"Cats and mice and lions and tigers blush at the roots of their antennae, or whiskers."—New York Tribune.

## Rain From a Cloudless Sky.

When rain falls from a cloudless sky it is generally believed that the moisture has been brought by the wind at a great elevation. In the south Atlantic it has been known to rain for more than an hour while the sky was entirely free from clouds. In the island of Mauritius it is not at all uncommon for rain to come from a cloudless heaven. Slight showers fall during the evening when the stars are shining brightly. It is thought by some that these showers are the result of particles of ice formed in the higher region of the atmosphere melting and falling. Others attribute it to currents of warm and cold air traveling in opposite directions, with the result that the hot air condenses some of the moisture in the former and causes it to fall in the form of rain.

## Where the Strain Was.

Among the ancestors of Wendell Phillips were several Puritan clergymen. Perhaps it was a push of heredity which made him, at five years of age, a preacher. His congregation was composed of circles of chairs, arranged in his father's parlor, while a taller chair, with a Bible on it, served him for a pulpit. He would harangue these wooden auditors by the hour.  
"Wendell," said his father to him one day, "don't you get tired of this?"  
"No, papa," wittily replied the boy preacher; "I don't get tired, but it is rather hard on the chairs."

## Superstitious.

"He was the most superstitious card player I ever saw."  
"Yes, and he got so superstitious here lately that he doesn't play cards at all now."  
"Is that so?"  
"Yes. He suddenly discovered that there are thirteen cards in each suit."

## Proof of It.

"Well," remarked the boxer, as he walked the floor with his first born, "some of my enemies have said that I couldn't put a baby to sleep, but I never believed it till now."—Week's Sport.

## Pretty Good Evidence.

Mrs. Hoyle—I think my husband is getting absentminded. Mrs. Doyle—How so? Mrs. Hoyle—He recently mailed a letter on the same day that I gave it to him.—New York Press.

## Doing Very Well.

"Bah! He has no energy."  
"He has energy enough to roll his own cigarettes and to carry a large cane. You can't expect too much of a young fellow."—Exchange.

## Sarcasm.

Patron (to very slow waiter)—Bring me some salad, please. And you might just send me a post card every now and then while you're away.—Judge.

## Willing to Help Him.

"Why don't you want to let me hold your hand?"  
"What good would it do you to hold my hand?"  
"It would make me glad and give me courage perhaps to say something that I—I—er—"  
"There! Please hold both of my hands."—Chicago Record Herald.

## Her Mark Down Mania.

Mrs. Bonham—You are always making mountains out of molehills. Bonham—And you are always marking mountains down to molehills.—New York Press.

## Making Campaign Banners.

The services of twelve men are required to produce one of the big campaign banners. Two men prepare the strips on which the lettering is done. Two more look after the lettering of these strips, the painting of the names of clubs or associations ordering the banners, and the offices for which the nominees are to contend. Two men work on the centripieces, generally consisting of an angle and shield. One man devotes himself to the special portraits, and the others assemble the various parts, sew the strips together and give the finishing touches to the banner. The "portrait man" seems to do any other work than the main portrait. The rest he calls "filling in." By working on the same faces day after day this artist becomes so skillful and so rapid in execution that he can paint the portrait of a candidate in the dark, and paint it as true to life as the standard of the campaign banner industry requires.—Harper's.

## Picking Tea Leaves.

"Tea leaf picking" was a Camberwell industry in the early nineteenth century. On May 13, 1833, when two boys were charged with gambling on Sunday, one of them explained that he got the 2 shillings found upon him, "not by gambling, your worship, but by picking tea leaves." "The tea plant does not happen to grow in this country, my lad," replied the magistrate; "therefore you are adding a falsehood to the offense for which you were brought here, and that offense is always sure to lead to crimes of more magnitude."

But the boy explained: "I am employed by a cowkeeper at Camberwell, who sends me into the fields to gather sicc leaves and black and white thorn leaves, and he pays me so much a pound for all I pick." And the police traced the connection between that cowkeeper and city tea dealers.—London Opinion.

## Historical Accuracy.

Perish the thought that the novelist or playwright should be tied down to historical accuracy! Lady Dorothy Neville quotes an amusing correspondence between Bulwer Lytton and her brother:

My Dear Walpole—Here I am at Bath—bored to death. I am thinking of writing a play about your great ancestor, Sir Robert. Had he not a sister Lucy, and did she not marry a Jacobite?

My brother promptly replied:

My Dear Lytton—I care little for my family and still less for Sir Robert, but I know that he never had a sister Lucy, so she could not have married a Jacobite.

However, this mattered little to Lord Lytton, for his answer ran:

My Dear Walpole—You are too late! Sir Robert had a sister Lucy, and she did marry a Jacobite.

So, in defiance of history, the play "Walpole" came to be written.

## Wellington's Wrist of Steel.

The Duke of Wellington had only one vanity—his wrist was like steel. Now, when he was given the sword of state to carry it was his infinite delight that he was able to carry it upright. All his predecessors had had to slope it toward the shoulder. He would go down to posterity, he resolved, glorified by the power of his wrist. In vain Sir Thomas Lawrence pointed out that as a matter of art it would never do; that the sight of a man perennially carrying a sword from his wrist would fatigue those who looked at his picture. The duke insisted upon having his way. Lawrence did manage to smuggle in a cushion upon which the duke seems to rest his elbow, but close examination shows that arm and cushion do not meet.—London Sketch.

## Liszt and His Cigars.

Liszt, the composer, is said to have abandoned the habit of smoking as a result of a misunderstanding with the Italian customs authorities. He was accustomed to smoke but one cigar a day and on a journey to Rome had one cigar for each day of his stay in the Holy City placed in his trunk. On being asked at the frontier if he had any tobacco to declare he, absentminded, shook his head. When the trunk was examined nearly a hundred cigars were found. These were confiscated and their owner fined 500 francs. As a result of this experience Liszt made a vow never to smoke again.

## Rough on the Old Folk.

"Mother," remarked a girl, "I think Harry must be going to propose to me."  
"Why so, my daughter?" queried the old lady, laying down her spectacles, while her face beamed like a full moon.  
"Well, he asked me this evening if I wasn't tired of living with such a menagerie as you and dad."—San Francisco Chronicle.

## Good Hunting.

Hunting Squire—Murphy, you told me there was good hunting on your land. Why, we've been here an hour and haven't even seen any game. Murphy—Just so, sir. But the less game the more hunting you have.—London Tit-Bits.

## Her Queer Response.

Elderly Aunt—My dear, I have just put you down in my will for \$10,000. Her Niece—Oh, auntie, what can I say to thank you? How are you feeling today?—Life.

## Turning It Around.

First Member—They say Homebody bosses his wife terribly. Second Member—Yes, he certainly wears the skirts.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

## Wisdom provides things necessary, not superfluous.

Humoring Him.  
Bridegroom (to his young wife, overfond of dress)—The dress you have on pleases me greatly. I should like always to see you in it, my darling. Bride—I will fulfill your wishes. I will have my portrait painted in it at once, and you can hang the portrait over your desk.—Fliegende Blätter.

## An Insinuation Feared.

Clergyman—Madam, you must be consoled with the thought that your husband is at rest. With—Do you mean that he didn't have any before he died?—New York Press.

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J. W. Bryan, of Lower, Ill., writes: "My little boy was very low with pneumonia. Unknown to the doctor we gave him FOLEY'S HONEY AND TAR. The result was magical and puzzled the doctor, as it immediately stopped the racking cough and he quickly recovered."

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