

The Athena Press

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
F. B. Boyd, Publisher

Published Every Friday, Office, Corner
Third and Jefferson Streets.

Entered in the Postoffice at Athena, Oregon,
as second-class Mail Matter.

Subscription Rates.
One copy, one year.....\$1.50
When paid in Advance, (otherwise, \$2.00)
One copy, six months......75
One copy, three months......50

Advertising Rates.
Display, transient, running less than one
month, first insertion, per inch..... 25c
Subsequent insertions.....12c
Display regular, per inch.....12c
Local readers, first insertion, per line, 10c
Subsequent insertions, per line..... 5c
Lodge resolutions, per line..... 5c
Church notices, admission, per line..... 5c

ATHENA, ORE., FEB. 21, 1913

THE NATIONAL FORESTS.

The Public, a current editorial journal of note, sees disaster for the Democratic party in Congress if it takes cognizance of proposed states rights in the regulation of national forests. The Public says:
"If the Democratic party in Congress were seeking political shipwreck, it could hardly set its prow better for the purpose in the present state of public opinion than by following a blind policy of State rights with reference to any of the national resources of this country which concern the country as a whole. There is indeed a profound political truth in the doctrine of state rights. Local government in local affairs is a pole-star of democracy. It is a principle to which, let us fervently hope, this republic and its constituent republics which we call States will grow toward and not away from. But the traditional State rights doctrine though it be vitalized by the home rule principle, is in fact something else than home rule. Not infrequently it is something different. No more important is it to the principle of local self government that each of our smaller communities regulate its own affairs, than that our national community regulate the common affairs of all. The doctrine of State rights which once committed this republic to perpetuation of human slavery was a false and pernicious doctrine then; its application to national problems of the present day is a false and pernicious doctrine now—and unnecessary to boot.
"One of the forms which the resort to that old citadel of slavery, the traditional doctrine of State rights, takes at the present juncture in Congress, has direct reference to national forests. Big Business, seeing the handwriting on the wall as to its sometime rich pasture fields in national politics, seeks now to exploit our common forests by having them turned over to the States and then controlling them through State legislatures. The plea with which the mouth-pieces of Big Business in those states and in Congress make, is the old-fashioned pro-slavery plea modernized. It should fall on deaf ears among Democrats. Turn over our national forests to the states within whose boundaries they lie! To do so would be the rankest folly. Congress has done precisely this with national school lands in the States, and where are those school lands now? With but trifling exceptions, every acre has been turned over to private exploitation. And just that, if the old State-rights school-land policy is pursued by Congress with reference to the remaining natural resources, will be the fate of our forests.
"All the people of this country are interested, directly and indirectly, in the natural resources of the whole country. To tolerate State sovereignty over these resources in the respective States would be as truly an abuse of the local self-government principle as establishing county sovereignty over those lying within the respective counties. In so far as the Federal government has already divested itself of sovereignty over natural resources—its mines, forests, school lands, etc.—the question of restoration must of necessity be left to the future. So with the great natural resources of the original States, like anthracite coal, in Pennsylvania, which came to the states from the British crown. Not so with natural resources still within the sovereignty of the general government. Of these the federal government must not be divested at all. For Congress to divest the general government of this sovereignty, at our present stage of enlightenment on questions of social justice, would be folly so rank as to imply treachery to public obligations."

The Drunkard's Cloak.
One of the quaint instruments of torture in England in olden time was a device known as the drunkard's cloak. It was made of wood and in shape resembled a huge inverted flowerpot. Through the small circular aperture in the top was thrust the neck of the imprisoned inebriate. The weight of this ancient counterpart of the straitjacket fell on the victim's shoulders and was sufficient to make every bone in his body ache. With his hands practically pinned to his sides and the garment reaching almost to the ground the only motion allowed him was a slow shuffle of his weary feet as he dragged his way painfully along. One can well believe that any one who had been compelled to don the drunkard's cloak would be very apt to come to the conclusion that a high old time was not worth having at the price.

Rivarol's Wit.
Antoine Rivarol, the French epigrammatist of the eighteenth century, was no brilliant but something good was expected of him every minute. Once when he had been invited to dinner, at which the hostess especially wished him to shine, he sat quite silent. The attitude of disappointed expectancy in the company nettled him, and at last Rivarol made a stupid remark. Everybody uttered an exclamation.
"There," said Rivarol, "I cannot say a stupid thing without every one's crying, 'Thief!'"
At a dinner in the house of some Germans he made a joke. His hosts put their heads together inquiringly. Rivarol said to his neighbor, a Frenchman:
"Look at the Germans pooling their wits to understand a joke."

Nests on the Water.
It is almost unthinkable that a bird should build a nest on the water. Yet that is exactly what the grebes always do. With reeds, grass and plant stems the grebe makes a regular floating island, somewhat hollowed out on top, usually near the open water of a marshy or reedy lake. We have several kinds of grebes, but their nests are much alike, sometimes moored to the reeds, but usually floating freely on the water.—St. Nicholas.

Hypnotized Epitaph.
"What has become of your hypnotized friend?"
"My hypnotized friend?"
"Yes; your friend Mr. Wombat-Wombat."
"He is ill of beri-beri."
"Where?"
"In Walla-Walla."—Exchange.
Young Wife—Somehow I cannot get my bread to rise. Hub.—Why don't you set the alarm clock?—Boston Transcript.

ing against the owner of the Star for contempt of court. Although the judge who took this proceeding admitted that the offense was defamation of character he issued the process himself, tried the question himself and without a jury decided it against the defendant—reading as his decision a document conceded to have been prepared in advance—and imposed sentence himself. If this procedure be lawful then litigants upon judges, whether true and therefore desirable or false and therefore indictable, are within the jurisdiction for trial and punishment of the person libeled.

"Alfalfa Joe" Hinkle made a brilliant speech Wednesday in the house, urging the state's moral duty to come to the rescue of Columbia Southern irrigation project. The Forbes' bill appropriating \$500,000 for this project was then passed by an overwhelming vote.—Weston Leader.
Yes, and then the "brilliant" Joey looked-stepped with the steam roller combination in the House and stood for Bill No. 578 for the purpose of repealing Thompson's swamp land bill, which will if it becomes a law, prevent the state securing several hundred thousand acres of land which would be sold for the benefit of the common school fund. The swamp land grab has been fought by the governor from the start, and he sent a message to the house this week regarding its baleful influence, mention of which will be found in another column. Joey believes in state aid to swamp land speculators, private irrigation schemes, etc. Why? Because he's in the business himself.

During the week the National capital has gradually awakened to the fact that it is in the midst of the greatest woman's suffrage crusade ever attempted on a national scale in the United States. In preparation for the suffrage pageant and procession on March 3, meetings have been held until the people of Washington City have become convinced that they are going to have many thrills during inauguration week. While the underlying motive of the procession and pageant is most serious, there will be plenty of entertaining features. The ranks of "General" Rosalie Jones' Army, which is marching from New York to Washington are well on its way, while the ranks of the "petticoat cavalry" which will be an important feature of the parade, are said to be filling rapidly.

Some one has located the Garden of Eden in Oregon. The state has ever been considered Edenic, particularly as to climate and apples.

Poor old Mexico, goes from bad to worse. The administration very prudently avoids intervention in her affairs.

The Danger of Lying in Bed.
Lack of muscular exercise is the first result of lying in bed. As a result the appetite is weakened, the digestive action slows down and the muscles of the stomach and abdomen cease to act upon the intestinal mass. When the body is in a recumbent position the heart works with the least expenditure of effort and the least fatigue and the circulation and the functional activity are decreased. But unless the subject is exceptionally vigorous all the benefits are counterbalanced by dangers. In bed the subject is shut away from fresh air and sunlight. The result of that deprivation is a condition similar to anemia. But the supreme menace to the weak or the aged confined to bed is the clogging of the pulmonary circulation, an action which frequently results in passive congestion of both sides of the lungs. For this reason the simple fracture of a bone may be the cause of death, because when the patient lies in bed there is no movement of the muscles to act as an incentive to deep breathing.—Harper's.

The Aristocratic Montenegrin.
The Bulgarian may not have a liking for domestic service, but he is a born agricultural laborer. According to a recent traveler, if you give him a barren piece of land he will make it blossom like the rose, while his Montenegrin brother will stand and look on. On the other hand, the Montenegrin placed in a drawing room always behaves like a gentleman, while the Bulgarian in the same environment cannot help being a boor. "But then," says the London Chronicle, "it is said the Montenegrins are the descendants of Serbian aristocrats who fled to the mountains to seek freedom. The explanation is thin, but pleasing. Of one claim to culture, however, Montenegro cannot be deprived—she established a printing press at Obod only twenty years after Caxton began his labors, and she printed beautifully. But the Turks made 'pl' of everything, and the press was not re-established till 1832."

The Reason.
"I think the picture lacks atmosphere," said the kindly critic.
"Fact is," said the artist, "I had a hard time raising the wind while I was painting."
Mevly's Hint.
Kitty-Harry says he loves me for myself alone. Bertha—I suppose that's his way of saying your mother must be kept out of the family.—Exchange.

BOILING AN EGG.
If it Gives You Trouble You Might Try John Randolph's Way.
The boiling of an egg seems a simple matter, but many a breakfast has been spoiled and many a temper rased by the cook's failing to observe the precise number of minutes the process should occupy.
The very original man, John Randolph, is said to have invented a method of getting his eggs cooked exactly to his taste that worked perfectly. As is the case in many country homes in the south, the kitchen was in a separate building at some distance from the house, and servants were plenty.
When the "sage of Roanoke" took his seat at the breakfast table there was a line of servants from the dining room to the kitchen. Mrs. Randolph, the mother of the statesman, held an open watch in her hand.
"In" exclaimed Mr. Randolph, and the word "in" was passed from mouth to mouth until it reached the waiting cook, who dropped the eggs into the water. After the requisite number of seconds the holder of the timepiece signified that the cooking was done. "Out!" went forth the command in like manner, and the eggs were quickly removed.
The system required six or seven servants to cook one egg, but Randolph was accustomed to declare that this was the only way that he could get it cooked to suit him.—Youth's Companion.

The Salty Atlantic.
Some odd disparities have been found to exist in the saltiness of the sea water in different oceans and latitudes. For a number of these A. Woelkow in his book, "Ueber den Salzgehalt des Meeres," presents ingenious explanations. The Atlantic ocean is known to be about one-sixteenth more salty than the Pacific and two-sixteenths more so than the Indian ocean. This is in spite of the fact that it receives considerably more fresh water drainage in proportion to its extent, an apparent anomaly. But, points out the scientist, the Atlantic itself supplies, by evaporation, most of the rain that ultimately drains back into it. The prevailing west winds, on the other hand, carry much of its moisture to Indian or even Pacific ocean watersheds. As no fresh water comes down to replace this lost evaporation the residue of the Atlantic becomes saltier. Inflow around the Horn and Cape of Good Hope alone prevents this process from going further than it does.

A Problem at Cambridge.
When Lord Rayleigh, the British scientist, was a student at Cambridge the examiners set among other problems one which they based on an article in a German mathematical periodical supposed unlikely to have penetrated to Cambridge. Only two men solved it. Mr. Sturt (Lord Rayleigh) and another. The examiners asked the other man about this problem. "Oh," he said, "I take the — (mentioning the name of the periodical), and I was very glad to find that, thanks to an article in the last number, that problem came out quite easily." When Mr. Sturt's turn came they expected a similar answer, but he astonished them by replying, "The fact is, gentlemen, that I sometimes contribute to —, and I could not help feeling greatly flattered that you should have thought my little problem worthy of a place in this examination." He was awarded the prize.

A Slump in Kisses.
A Frenchman who apparently has a good deal of time on his hands has been amusing himself by reckoning up the number of kisses he has given his wife during the first twenty years of his married life. He finds that in the first year he dispensed about a hundred kisses a day, or, say, allowing for birthdays and holidays, about 36,700 in the year. In the second year this number was reduced by half and in the third year to ten a day, while in the fifth year his better half had to be content with two a day, one in the morning and one in the evening. What happened after the fifth year is "wrapped in mystery," but at the same rate of "progression" he probably arrived eventually at one kiss on the 1st of January every leap year.

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