

Daily Democrat

F. P. NUTTING
Lessee.

Entered at the postoffice at Albany, Oregon, as second-class matter.

Published every evening except Sunday, Semi-weekly published Tuesdays and Fridays.

BUSINESS MATTER
Address all communication and make all remittances payable to the Democrat Publishing Co.

In ordering changes of address, subscribers should always give old as well as new address.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Daily
Delivered by carrier, \$4.00 per year in advance, otherwise 40c per month.
By mail, at end of year 3.50
By mail in advance, per year 3.00
Semi-Weekly
At end of year \$1.50
When paid in advance, one yr. 1.25CLASSIFIED RATES
1c per word for first publication; 1/2c per word thereafter, payable in advance. Minimum charge of 25c.
Established in 1865.

MONDAY, MAY 31, 1915

THE FRANK CASE.

Memory is searched in vain for another criminal case in which a verdict of conviction aroused anything even approaching or more than remotely analogous to the dissatisfaction which is felt, and in all parts of the country except one, expressed, in regard to the condemnation of Leo M. Frank on the charge of murdering Mary Phagan.

What we now see is a simultaneous and spontaneous movement everywhere out of Georgia—a movement in which all sorts of people unite—to impress upon the executive official of that state the adverse view of the trial and conviction taken literally by hundreds of thousands. This they do in part by resolutions adopted at great public meetings, in part by petitions signed by long lists of names, and still more by individual telegrams and letters sent to the governor of Georgia, declaring strong doubt of Frank's guilt or strong belief in his innocence, and asking, as an emergency measure, that his sentence be commuted to life imprisonment in order that opportunity may be provided for the future vindication so confidently expected.

Meanwhile—and it is a strange and somewhat mystifying phenomenon we hear almost nothing from the citizens of Atlanta and Georgia, as such. That anything like all of them—that even a majority—believe the guilt of Frank proved beyond a "reasonable doubt," as the law demands, by the unsupported and largely refuted testimony of a depraved negro, is not claimed, even by themselves. Of the few Georgians who venture to express an opinion, practically all either favor or consent to a commutation of sentence. Frank's death is now demanded only by the official prosecutor. No real antagonism to leniency—to a chance for reconsideration—now remains where once it was so vehement, and the semblance of it is seemingly a lingering resentment of what has been taken in Georgia for outside criticism of, and interference with, a proceeding there considered of strictly local import.—Guard.

The Democrat knows of at least one resident of Atlanta, who believes in the innocence of Frank, a woman of splendid judgment and great fairness who knows the world. If Frank is hanged it will be a colossal murder.

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MISFITS

The Scio Tribune editorially declares that the city council of Scio has neither sense nor progressiveness. Now let's hear from the members of the council, probably representative men.

The Jefferson Review backs up the Tribune by declaring the streets of Scio to a hogwallow.

All this shows that the people are thinking about better thoroughfares.

Speaking of the Review the editor declares that a young lady of that city recently bought a new suit in a neighboring town, and the styles changed so fast that when she looked at it a few hours later it was all out of date and she wouldn't wear it.

Here is a good one from an ex.—"The less reputation folks have the quicker they flare up in defense of it."

The old soldiers deserve all the splendid respect paid them.

What a difference between the mode of war that they engaged in and that of the present day. Then it was out in the open, facing each other above ground, now it is down in trenches, or up in the air, or beneath the waters, with modern and mysterious machinery of war.

Whether old or new, though, it has been and is only one thing, and it begins with h.

The weather in the Willamette valley generally gets around about where it is needed.

U. S. and Germany must sit down together and talk it over dispassionately. Where there have been mistakes they should be rectified in a spirit of justice.

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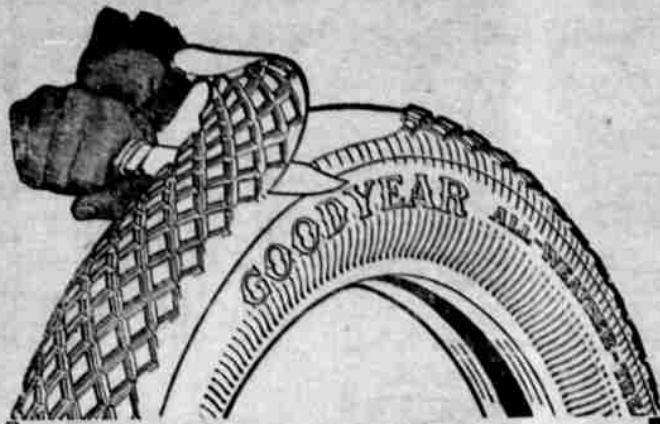
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