

ADVANTAGE OF SUFFRAGE TOLD

Ladies Meet With Suffrage Workers and Form Local Club to Carry Work on in This Section of the Country.

Not willing to have her sister states ahead of her in anything, Oregon is making a strenuous effort to have equal suffrage win out at the next election. Interest has been aroused on that subject this week by Miss Charlotte Whitney, president of the College of Equal Suffrage league of San Francisco, and Mrs. Helen Hoy Greeley, a prominent suffrage advocate of New York City.

A reception was given to these ladies Friday evening at Hotel Medford, when an Equal Suffrage club was formed. And from this time on Medford will probably do her part in the work which is being carried on throughout the state.

At this meeting Mrs. Greeley opened the program with a short address. In this she gave a review of the work which had been accomplished upon suffrage lines. Mrs. Greeley told of the sweatshops in New York City and other cities, the underpaid shop and store girls, and of the great number of girls and women who are today working for less pay than is needful for them to maintain a livelihood, and closed with an appeal for Oregon to get in line with Washington and California in a solid coast effort to help the less fortunate women of the east.

"These things," said Mrs. Greeley, "do not appeal to men as they do to women, for they do not represent to them a life's work. Mothers are interested in their girls, their boys and in women who have not the right to be free from labor. Man has occupied the place of provider for the family. Dollars to them represent the commodity that they hope to interchange for the happiness of their families. As a result they do not realize the enormity of the situation. And women will have to bring about the change."

Attorney E. E. Kelly, of this city, followed with some remarks on the "Legal Status of the Women of Oregon." Mr. Kelly gave a very vivid and comprehensive talk on the subject but could not lose an opportunity such as that was to "josh" a little, but when he had gotten down to a solid talk he said many things which showed conclusively that he could be counted on as a supporter of the cause, and voiced the sentiment of many a stalwart, thinking man in the state of Oregon when he said: "If the men of this state become convinced that the women really want equal franchise, I am sure that the men will grant it."

Delaney Buried.

OAKLAND, Cal., Jan. 27.—The funeral of the late William Delaney, the noted trainer and manager of pugilists, was held this afternoon from the undertaking parlors of Albert Brown here.

Attractions at the Medford Theatre

SCENE FROM "THE ROSARY," OP ERA HOUSE, TUES. NIGHT, JAN. 30



Those who complain about the decadence of the drama can offer no sound criticism of "The Rosary," which was the sensation of the east last season. It is not a religious drama of the heavy sort, lacking in entertaining qualities. On the contrary, it is a delightful story of every-day life, in which the plot hinges upon the misery which creeps into a household through circumstances which lead to suspicion and jealousy, and of a part which a priest, Rev. Brian Kelly, plays in bringing about a correct understanding. A rosary of pearls figures in the unfolding of the plot, and its final happy denouement.

The play is handsomely staged by the producers, Rowland and Clifford, and is enacted by a powerful acting cast. "The Rosary" is a play which every lover of a clean and entertaining stage production should see. Six companies, all equally formed as to strength of cast, are touring the country again this season, repeating the tremendous hit that this play made everywhere last year. It will be seen at the Medford theater on Tuesday, January 30.

ANNUAL MEETING OF FAIR TO BE HELD SOON

The annual meeting of the Rogue River Valley Fair association for the election of a board of directors and any other business that may come before the meeting will be held on Monday, February 5, at 7:30 p. m. at the Hotel Medford. All stockholders and any others who are interested in a permanent county fair are cordially invited to attend this important meeting.

LADIES HELD A BUSINESS SESSION

The Woman's auxiliary of the Baptist church, successor to the Ladies' Aid society, met in business session Tuesday afternoon, voted on a new constitution and elected the following officers: President, Mrs. Garnett; first vice president, undecided; second vice president, Mrs. Stearns; third vice

ROGUE RIVER IS UP ONCE AGAIN

Still Lacks Four Feet of Reaching Height Recorded Last Year—Placer Miners Have Been Helped by Rains.

The heavy rains for the last few days have raised the Rogue river to a considerable extent, but it yet lacks four feet of being as high as it was at one time last winter.

The Rogue is a rapid stream and it does not take long for a flood to recede, even when it is at an extreme height. The recent rains have helped the placer miner and he will continue to be benefited for weeks to come. The scarcity of rain in the past has prevented active placer mining operations which will now go rapidly forward.

DELIGHTFUL SURPRISE PARTY FOR MRS. SHIELDS

Thursday afternoon the ladies of the Presbyterian church gave Mrs. W. F. Shields a delightful surprise at the Manse. So perfect were their plans that not until the house was full to overflowing with her friends did Mrs. Shields suspect their purpose.

After presenting her with a set of sterling silver knives and forks, a sterling silver teapot, creamer and sugar bowl, and last but not least a fine meat roaster, some of the ladies took possession of the kitchen and served delicious refreshments. All had a good time and left Mrs. Shields very happy and appreciative of their kindness and generosity.

Haskins for health.

Tweedledum and Tweedledee

(From the Portland Oregonian.)

We are in doubt, after reading the news reports of the supreme court decision in the single tax and road cases, as to which is the greater subject to marvel over, the seeming inability of the framers of our initiative statutes to prepare an act that fits the public sentiment which inspires it or the skill and agility of our courts in that time honored legal practice known as splitting hairs.

Unfortunately, the custom of the courts to ignore the practical, every-day knowledge that comes to them is also time honored and therefore not to be reversed. They will rarely go back of the drafting of an act to determine what was its intent, take knowledge of public discussion during its pendency or seek to ascertain whether there ever was any intent—that is knowledge by the legislature or people as to what they were voting for. The court works backward. It reads an act and decides what meaning the people or legislature ought to have obtained from it, not how the people or legislature did understand it. They call the result of their interpretation the "intent" of the lawmakers.

Thus it was that as a cold matter of fact proposition, the people adopted the single tax amendment without any thought as to its meaning other than the thought that it repealed the poll tax. But the supreme court, in effect, tells the people now that their intent was to give Clatsop county, for example, the power and machinery to vote out of existence the tax levied by our state—not by the county—on every fish cannery in Clatsop county. There were numerous other intentions which in fact the people did not know they had, but they will learn of them in due time as the Fels paid bureau gets busy.

On the other hand, there was the road bonding amendment. Everybody knows now and knew at the time of

its submission that the amendment grew out of a desire of the several counties, principally of Jackson county, to vote county bonds for road improvement. But, given court interpretation, the amendment discloses that this was not the intent of the people. Our intent, we now learn to our surprise, was simply to enable the legislature to provide us with the machinery wherewith to bond counties for road improvement.

Perhaps the road amendment was not measured by the yardstick of theoretical intent, but given strict construction. In any event, the reading of the two decisions together justifies the conclusion that either through bad wording or through hairsplitting tendencies an absence of intent or knowledge is overcome in one instance and an actual intent replaced with a theoretical one of opposite color in the other.

It is not difficult to understand how one judge should reach the conclusion that neither of these measures was self-executing but it is difficult to understand the line of reasoning of those others who found one amendment self-executing and the other not, unless in the road bonding case they took shelter behind the theory that indebtedness in the form of bonds is not authorized. Yet to grant a county power to increase its warrant indebtedness, only upon consent of the people, seems to us so impracticable a procedure that no other intent than an authorization of bonded indebtedness could be construed to have been held by the people. What sense would there be in spending several thousand dollars in an election to determine whether a warrant indebtedness, which in theory is but a temporary indebtedness, should be created in an amount perhaps not greatly exceeding the election expenditures? The direct legislative power is now extended to municipalities by

constitution and general statute. The laws leave much, however, to be implied. Likewise there is an indefinite statute relating to special elections in counties. Jackson county found it thoroughly workable in the bond election now declared invalid. Yet intent no more plainly expressed, so far as the ordinary mind can envision in one than in the other, carries the tax amendment into workable effect and fails as to the bonding amendment. Few of us suspected there was such a vast difference between six and a half dozen.

Ladies Aid Meets.

The Ladies' Aid society of the First Methodist Episcopal church met in regular session Wednesday, 2:30 p. m., in the church, a large attendance of ladies being present. Committees for the merchants' banquet, to be given February 6, were appointed and an excellent paper was read by the president on "The Betterments of Work of the Ladies' Aid Society." Two new members were received. After the close of the business of the society a prayer meeting in the interest of the services, being held nights in the church by the pastor, was much enjoyed and was a source of great good to those present. The next meeting will be in the church Wednesday afternoon, January 31. All members are urged to come and lend their presence and aid to the work.

LOCAL TEAMS ARE DEFEATED AT BASKETBALL

Defeat was handed out to the boys' and girls' basketball teams of the high school last evening, the boys being whipped at Ashland and the girls getting the small score at Grants Pass. Ashland piled up 37 points to Medford's 5 and easily played the better game. The girls were beaten 24 to 3. The boys will play a return game at the "Nat" February 9 and hope to turn the tables. Both teams bring back stories of courteous treatment by officials and rooters.

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