

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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With Medford Stop-Over

MISS HOBBS' VISIT MYSTIFIES CITIZENS OF COVE, OREGON

COVE, Or., Feb. 24.—The citizens of Cove were puzzled today to know just what Miss Fern Hobbs, the governor's secretary, accomplished on her visit here and what the ultimate outcome will be.

Miss Hobbs arrived yesterday afternoon and spent two hours investigating the saloon situation. Late in the evening she left on her return trip to Salem.

From the time she stepped from the train until she took her leave, the click of the "movie" camera punctuated the progress of the fair "invader."

About 150 citizens gathered at the station to welcome Miss Hobbs and followed her to the city hall, where she spent some time examining the city ordinances covering the liquor question. Mayor Wilson and the councilmen showed Miss Hobbs every courtesy and she was very much pleased with her reception here.

Miss Hobbs also visited persons who had written Governor West complaining against the saloons. The nature of the conferences was not divulged.

W. C. T. U. MEETING AT EAGLE POINT

Eagle Point, Feb. 18. Our president of the W. C. T. U., Mrs. Minnie Bryant made a special call for the members of our union to convene at the church this morning at 9:30 o'clock as our county superintendent, Mrs. Lydia C. Howell and Mrs. Godlove of Medford came in on the morning train and would be our guests of honor for the day.

We had a very pleasant and successful meeting, the ways and the means of a great many things were discussed and discussed.

At 12 o'clock we adjourned and repaired to the temperance hotel conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Owens, where an elegant lunch was spread for our benefit in which we were all amply provided for with the good things to eat, and socially we all enjoyed every minute of the time.

After lunch we repaired to the parlor where we were entertained with music, singing and playing, by the Rev. Mr. Simmons and Mrs. Betty, also instrumental music by Professor Haight, which was par excellence. Train time arrived and our guests were escorted back to the afternoon train by the members of our union who requested them to come again as they would always receive a hearty welcome from their Eagle Point sisters in the union.

LOUIS NICHOLS, Eagle Point Press Correspondent.

SEVEN RAILROADS WOULD KEEP BOATS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—Seven railroads today petitioned the interstate commerce commission for permission to retain water lines under the Panama canal act. The Southern Pacific, Operating the Pacific Mail ships, and the Spokane, Portland and Seattle railroad operating Columbia river boats, were among the seven.

Weather Forecast

Oregon—Tonight and Wednesday, rain west portion, cloudy east portion, probably rain or snow; southerly winds.

THE KICK ON TAXES

As tax-paying time nears, there sounds the usual protest over high taxes. As customary, those who complain loudest pay the least in proportion to their wealth. If they had told the assessor the truth, they would be paying much more and Mr. Honest Man much less.

The increase in taxes is due primarily to the increase in state expenditures, on account of appropriations made at the last session of the legislature. But if this year's levy is a record-breaker for large state levies, that of a year ago was the record-breaker for small levies.

The following comparison of the two years shows the levies in detail:

Table comparing tax levies for 1913 and 1914. Columns include State fund, School and library, High school fund, General expense, redemption, Public building fund, Fruit inspection fund, Advertising and Fair, General road fund, and Total.

It will thus be seen that the state levy is nearly 3 mills higher than a year ago. The county levy is 2.1 mills higher, the increase due to redemption of warrants, for which a fund has been provided that will permit of the retirement of approximately \$100,000 this year. A similar redemption levy for the next few years will lift the county out of debt.

State Treasurer T. B. Kay blames the increase in state taxes on the various commissions created, with superfluous and useless officials, which increase the cost of government. He asserts that in ten years, with an increase in population of less than a third, taxes have almost trebled in Oregon.

There is no doubt but that many of the commissions could be merged with other offices or abolished, and a material saving be effected. The difficulty is that legislatures never will do the chopping, but constantly enlarge the state payroll in response to popular clamor and political pressure.

The Jeffersonian ideal of the less government the better has broken down under the reign of special privilege it fostered, which knows no law save its own desire. It has been necessary, in consequence, to protect by law the people from their exploiters on every hand. Hence the creation of boards and commissions to enforce restrictive and regulative laws.

It is hardly fair to compare the present with the past, even of a decade ago. Then railroads were unbridled and could rob, discriminate and abuse at will. Children could be wrecked to create fortunes for their employers. Workmen could be killed by criminal negligence of employers without recompense to families. Fraud and impurity reigned triumphant in every trade and industry. There was no inspection of any kind with a view to improving public health. Wildcat banks flourished without hindrance. Gambling and immorality paraded in public. Organized protection to save Oregon forests from fire ravages was unknown. Protection of orchards from pests was unprovided for. The work of the fish and game department consisted principally in an unsystematic protection and the little propagation attempted was unscientific and wholly for commercial ends.

Our educational institutions were poorly equipped. Our water and power resources in a hopeless tangle. Pests preyed at will upon humanity, livestock and products of the soil. Automobiles were practically unknown. A good road was still a dream of the future. Bogus insurance concerns reaped rich harvests and the get-rich-quick sharks piled up their fortunes.

Now we try by law to make life more livable, to eliminate or at least control the plagues that afflict humanity. We try to enforce common honesty and make the world a better and a safer one for all. And of course it costs money. The cost, however, in taxes is not nearly as great as the toll paid by humanity when taxes were lower. What is lost to the pocketbook by taxation is made up in protection for the pocketbook from robbers who prey on the unwary. And the gain in health and better living is worth many times the increase in taxation.

Taxes can undoubtedly be reduced without impairing the efficiency of the services rendered. Many of the commissions can be consolidated and a material saving be effected. Some of the commissions have accomplished the reforms they were created for and outlived their usefulness. Others merely provide sinecures.

Money spent in salaries is lost unless useful service is rendered. Money spent in construction and development work is money well spent. Taxes have increased all over the nation, because we have become tired of license and are regulating or suppressing it. That portion of tax money that helps make the world better is the best spent—and a large portion of our increased taxation is so spent.

High taxation is as frequently a sign of moral and social progress as it is of material progress. We want to eliminate the waste, without crippling the service to the public and to humanity.

A Court Without a Lawyer

(Chicago Record-Herald.) Germany has a system of people's courts from which lawyers are barred. The object is to insure prompt and cheap justice for the poorer elements of the community. The procedure in these courts is businesslike and free from technicalities and red tape. Now Kansas has followed the example of Germany and established by law a system of lawyerless courts. City or county commissioners are empowered to appoint a judge for a debtor's court from which lawyers are excluded. The plaintiff must tell his own story, as must the defendant. There are to be no technical pleas and no legal jargon. The judge may call witnesses, examine them in his own way or otherwise investigate the case. A few such laws and experiments as this may cause the average lawyer to take some interest in law reform, in the movement for efficiency, sanity and simplicity in our courts of justice. Business men, too, will take notice and ask why they, though not poor, should pay for lawyers, meaningless technicalities, verbiage and professional tricks, whether ethical or law. Law reform is waiting for the axe, and Kansas has made a beginning. Good Wood. If you want good wood, get it from Frank H. Ray.

MANY INNOVATIONS FOR THE SPORTSMEN'S SHOW



With all of its old attractions still intact and numerous new features added, the Sportsmen's Show, that perennial event of interest to all lovers of the great outdoors, will make its twentieth annual bid for public favor in Madison Square Garden, New York city, February 21.

In addition to the many exhibits of sporting goods and general outdoor paraphernalia, displayed by the leading outfitting houses of the country, the exposition includes a programme of sporting events of wide interest. For the first time in years water sports will be included and the well known swimmers and divers of the East will be seen in many aquatic competitions under the auspices of the A.A.U.

Corn Meal, the American Indian's Gift to Civilization

Department of Agriculture Suggests Certain Indian Recipes to the Housewife; Also Tells How Corn Meal Is Prepared in South Carolina, Boston, Italy and Jamaica.

Boston brown bread with fruit—Follow recipe for Boston brown bread, adding to the dry ingredients a cup of seeded and shredded raisins or prunes or a cup of Zante currants.

Boston brown bread with cream—One cup rye meal, one cup cornmeal, one teaspoon salt, one-half cup molasses, two eggs, one and one-half cups thin cream. Sift the dry ingredients. Add molasses, yolks of eggs well beaten and cream; lastly, fold in the whites of eggs beaten stiff. Pour mixture into buttered mold, steam three hours, then bake one hour in a moderate oven.

Italy has also contributed to the list of palatable dishes which may be evolved from cornmeal. An instinctive attempt on the part of Italians to supply the body with all the food elements required by means of one dish resulted in "Polenta."

This dish, which is common in Italy, differs little, except in name, from hasty pudding, though it is served in very different ways. Sometimes cheese is added during the cooking. Polenta is often reheated either with tomato sauce, or a meat gravy left over from a meal or with a meat gravy made from a small amount of meat bought for the purpose, or with half tomato sauce and half meat gravy. In any case,

the dish is improved by sprinkling each layer of polenta with cheese. When the polenta is to be reheated in gravy, it is well to cut it into small pieces in order that the gravy may be well distributed through the dish.

Tomato sauce for polenta—Two tablespoons butter, two tablespoons flour, one cup thick strained tomato juice, salt and pepper.

Melt the butter; cook the flour thoroughly in it; add the tomato juice and seasonings, and cook until smooth, stirring constantly.

Another attempt to produce a balanced ration in one dish has been made by the natives of Jamaica. It is called, "stamp and go," and consists of salt fish, lard and cornmeal, and has a nutritive value resembling that of scrapple. A good recipe for scrapple is the following: Cornmeal scrapple—One pig's head split in halves, two cups cornmeal, salt and sage. Cook the pork in water until the meat can be easily removed from the bone. Remove the meat, cool the broth and remove the fat. Reduce the broth to about two quarts or add water enough to bring it up to this amount, and cook the cornmeal in it. Add the meat finely chopped and the seasonings. Pack in granite bread tins. Cut into slices and fry.

(To Be Continued.)

Rose Cuttings

Since so many cuttings have recently been distributed among the children, to say nothing of the many provided for the mothers, a few hints in regard to their care will not come amiss.

The author of Amateur Gardening gives a brief outline as follows:

"The best place for the cuttings is under a north wall, or hedge. A nursery bed should be carefully prepared by digging deeply and thoroughly; work in abundance of sharp grit, or road sand as the digging proceeds. After this is completed, time should be allowed for the surface to dry, when it should be carefully trodden down firmly. The distance between the rows should be fifteen inches. This will allow ample space for hoeing and weeding. The trench should be not less than five to six

inches in depth; a layer of the coarse grit or sand should be placed in the trench, and the base of the cuttings rest on this. The distance between each cutting should be six inches. The soil should be returned and firmly trod about the cuttings with the boot. After trodding, place a little more soil on the top, but this must be left loose, and should not be trodden down under any circumstances. The cuttings will quickly form a callus and will then be safe. A hoe run through them frequently will be of the greatest assistance. Not only is this necessary to keep them free from weeds but it is absolutely necessary for the production of healthy and abundant roots and bushy plants. When the cuttings flower it is strongly recommended to pinch off all buds as fast as they appear."

A Live Principal

(From the Portland Oregonian)

Principal Beveridge, of Medford, has clever ideas about teaching civics. Usually that branch of knowledge is taught from a textbook which presents a cut-and-dried theory without much relation to practice. The boys and girls learn an abstractly mathematical account of our national and local governments, which is totally unlike the actual workings of a president on the immaculate page of the textbook is something very unlike the process that goes on in the conventions and among the voters. The judiciary department is presented in the classroom as the interpreter of the laws and nothing else. In practice our judges are often our most active and potent lawmakers.

Principal Beveridge is working out a plan which will teach his pupils actual, and not merely theo-

retical, civics. An election is to be held and, after a lively campaign, city officers are to be chosen. We understand that the play will approach reality as closely as sound morals permit. It ought to be highly instructive to the young people. Even their parents might learn something from the experiment if they could be persuaded to take a hand in the game.

There is no reason why Mr. Beveridge should not extend his lesson in civics far beyond the confines of city affairs. He might hold a state or even a federal election with the essential details all attended to. He

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might enact a session of the legislature on the stage of his schoolroom. He might dramatize the entire machinery of government and if he should do so we foretell an amazing growth of interest and mental profit in his classes.

COMMUNICATION

Medford, Feb. 23, 1914.

To the Editor:

Why should we be put to the expense of holding a city election to vote on a commission form of government? The people elected a council; pledged to economy, men who have successfully managed their own business, men who are directly interested in the city as they are all property owners, men that did not ask for any compensation for their services, only as it would benefit them as well as every property owner in Medford by having the city run on business principles. I think we should give them a chance to make good which I believe they will do, as I have every confidence in them. Suppose we adopted a commission form of government and elected three or more commissioners or a city manager at a large salary. What more could they do than the present council?

I am of the opinion that we have men on the council that are just as capable to manage the city affairs as any man or men that we could select, and put them on salaries. We had salaried men on the council, but did it make them any more efficient. I think not as the people repudiated them at their first opportunity. Mayor Purdin in his address to the people admitted that the council that elected him were incompetent to manage the city affairs, and the only salvation was a commission form of government and it is only natural that he would like to have his assertion or prophecy verified in order to vindicate the council that made him mayor. I have frequently been told by the supporters of the old council that the newly elected council would do no better than the old council did and no doubt but what they pray they won't that is if they ever pray.

In looking over the make-up of the committee to get up a new charter it looks as if it was the work of some one who expects or would like to be selected as one of the commissioners or manager to run the city. Why should each political party, association, club and society have a representative on the committee? Is the charter to be gotten up to favor parties, associations, clubs or societies? I can't think that Mayor Purdin selected the names of those he appointed on the committee. Some of them are not taxpayers and one of the committee was repudiated by the voters in his ward. It looks as if the names were suggested by some one who wants a position as com-

missioner or city manager and was fixing his political fences.

Should the proposition be submitted to the people for a commission form of government or city manager, every voter that believes in true democracy, that the people should rule should vote to defeat it. We need more democracy, not less. One man power is akin to monarchial government.

W. J. DRUMHILL.

James Montgomery's new play is called "Come Home, Smith."

OLD-TIME COLD CURE—DRINK HOT TEA!

Get a small package of Hamburg Breast Tea, or as the German folks call it, "Hamburger Brust Thee," at any pharmacy. Take a tablespoonful of the tea, put a cup of boiling water upon it, pour through a sieve and drink a teaspoon full at any time during the day or before retiring. It is the most effective way to break a cold and cure grip, as it opens the pores of the skin, relieving congestion. Also loosens the bowels, thus breaking up a cold. Try it the next time you suffer from a cold or the grip. It is inexpensive and entirely vegetable, therefore safe and harmless.

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Page Theatre Friday Feb. 27

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