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THE NEW CHARTER

It was not the intention of the Mail Tribune to enter the controversy over the new charter, but some of the many town nuisances having left their customary occupation of knocking Medford and the Rogue River valley to spread falsehoods regarding this paper and the charter, it is meet some reply be made to this circulating library of lies.

In the first place, neither the Mail Tribune nor anyone connected with it had anything to do with preparing the new charter, which was compiled, after laborious research and painstaking effort, by a commission appointed by and presided over by Mayor Purdin.

It is also asserted, though this is the first time the Mail Tribune has mentioned the subject, that the newspapers will secure from \$5000 to \$8000 a year printing under the new charter. This is a lie also. The charter provides as follows:

Sec. 17. Publication.—Every ordinance adopted for the City shall be printed or published, either in full or by a digest thereof fairly and accurately giving its purposes, provisions and results, in such manner as this Charter or Board of Directors pursue at hereto may provide.

This means that a brief condensation of every ordinance passed must be printed so the public may know what the new laws are, as they have a right to know. Probably two or three lines will be sufficient for every ordinance. The cost is infinitesimal. In times past it was customary to print the ordinance in full. The other printing provided is the same as in the present charter. Altogether in a year it would not pay a town erier's salary a month.

Arguments against the charter are based largely upon misrepresentation, misstatement and hearsay. Most of the critics are unfamiliar with either the present charter or that proposed. For instance, some persons are very industriously circulating the report that if the new charter passes, neither cows nor chickens can be kept within the city. Let us contrast what the new charter says with the old charter and present laws:

New Charter
 15. To regulate or prohibit the driving of live stock through any part of the City, the running at large of any animal; to prohibit cruelty to animals; to provide for a pound and for the sale, destruction or other disposition of animals picked up while running at large without a license; and to provide for the licensing of animals.

Old Charter
 Sec. 36.—To regulate or prohibit the driving of livestock through any part of the city and to prevent cruelty to animals.

Ordinance 154.—(Passed in 1897, signed by Hawkins mayor). No horse, mule, cow, sheep, goat, hog, calf, lamb, kid, pig or other domestic animal shall be suffered or permitted to run at large, or be herded or tied for the purpose of grazing within the corporate limits of Medford, in or upon any street, avenue, lane, alley, park, square, common, public place or other public place, etc.

Ordinance 49.—Passed 1902, signed by Crowell, mayor.—It shall be unlawful to permit the running at large of ducks, geese, chickens or any other domestic fowl in any street, road or alley or on any lot or land not belonging to or occupied by owner of such fowl at any time in the year. Any such fowl running at large outside of the premises owned or occupied by the owner of such fowl shall be presumed to be running at large with the knowledge and consent of the owner thereof.—Fine \$10.

Which of the two charters strike at the owner of livestock and chickens? Why, the old, of course. Then why these lies about the new charter? And almost every argument advanced proves a lie when analyzed.

The new charter is approved by a majority of the present council. No matter who is elected, the city affairs, either under old or new charter, will be administered under a majority of the present council. If the charter wins, it will fall to the majority of the present council to select the city manager. If it has flaws, it will be their duty to point them out. It can be changed at any time by initiative petition, if unsatisfactory to the public.

The old charter is a thing of shreds and patches. Every time anything is attempted by the city the charter has to be amended. There have been a dozen charter amendments in the past four years and as many elections.

The new charter offers an opportunity to modernize the city government. It is in tune with the progress of the time. It aims at efficiency, not politics. Its adoption would prove that the Medford spirit of accomplishment still lives. It is naturally opposed by those who oppose progress of all kinds. It is worth while because of the enemies it has made.

A NEW CAESAR

EATON is not fit to be the speaker of this or any other House.

Thus declares the Portland Oregonian, which adds that Mr. Eaton will "not thus be honored by a republican legislature with the Oregonian's consent."

The people of Oregon supposed that the right of choosing a speaker belonged to the members of the house of representatives and that it was their province to pass upon the fitness of the various candidates for the office.

In this the people were evidently mistaken. The Oregonian assumes the divine right to organize the legislature. It ordains that it be organized to carry out its own schemes to promote the preposterous ambitions of its editor, who seeks to become United States senator. It has therefore resurrected Ben Selling from the graveyard of political oblivion in which its own support interred him, and decreed that he be chosen speaker as a preliminary to candidacy for governor, four years hence.

Mr. Eaton's unfitness is declared due to the fact that he championed appropriations for the State University, which is located in his home city. Therefore he is guilty of the heinous crime of "log-rolling."

"Log-rolling" has a familiar sound to southern Oregon. The Oregonian and Ben Selling killed the Ashland normal because of its "dangerous log-rolling." The Oregonian and Ben Selling fought the Crater Lake highway for similar reasons. Eaton was a friend to both measures—therefore "unfit."

To elect Mr. Selling, in addition to brazenly bluffing and calling in old-time bosses like Mathews and Burke to aid it, the Oregonian is indulging in the most sinister form of "log-rolling." To secure the unwilling support of the Multnomah delegation, it has paraded out the committee assignments in advance, rewarding its friends, punishing

its opponents, bartering positions and patronage for votes. When the legislature meets, if the Oregonian is able to carry out its program, it will already have been organized. Its rump caucus will have cut and dried a program of legislation. The country members can fall in line or take their medicine.

Selling's selection will herald a return of the boss to power, a revivification of machine politics. Those who oppose will be crushed by the Oregonian steam-roller, even as it seeks to crush Eaton today.

But Selling has not been elected as yet. He is not sure of election, despite bombastic bluffs. What is more, he will not be elected, if the country members repudiate bossism in its incipency.

Councilman Medynski Answered

To the Editor:

I note in the local press a communication from Mr. Platt concerning the new charter. I have also read Mr. Medynski's letter.

Mr. Platt suggests a board of three with full power, two of whom are to assist the third in the administrative affairs of the city. His suggestion grew out of the fact that the commission charter, as first adopted, did not provide a sufficiently concentrated plan or administrative duties. The solution was not by making the board smaller, (it is important that it be large enough to fairly represent all the people since it makes the city ordinances) but by turning over the details of administrative duties to a man hired for that purpose and constantly under the control of the board.

An Untried Plan
 From the standpoint of the Medford charter commission, a sufficient answer to Mr. Platt's suggestion is that it has not been tried out in a single American city. Our new charter contains nothing but what has been tried out by a score of cities and found unquestionably desirable. We did not propose making Medford an experiment station in civic theories. The charter follows the plan that has proven best under the stern trial of actual use. May I add that no one can find a city in which such a charter is in use that has not shown a decided improvement in city government, a more economical administration, general satisfaction, or where there is any desire for a return to the old plan.

No Fear of Bossism
 Mr. Medynski tried to take the other horn of the dilemma and asserts that the new charter provides too concentrated a form of authority. He talks about "boss rule." Read the charter carefully and then answer, could any statement be more absurd. In two places is the unqualified provision that full authority and responsibility is put upon a board of seven elected by the people, any one or all of whom can be recalled at any time. They hire a man to look after administrative affairs whom they can discharge at any moment. He cannot spend a dollar except at the express order of the board. Could anything be more foolish than the assertion that such a hired man, with no powers and who cannot spend a dollar, and who can be discharged any moment, would become a political boss? If Mr. Medynski would only inform the people, he would tell them that every well known enemy of boss rule in the United States is urging the adoption of just such charters as is proposed for Medford. Look at a list of only a few of those actively engaged in pushing this effort for these new charters: President, Wilson, Theodore Roosevelt, Hiram Johnson who wiped out the boss rule in California, Judge Ben Lindsey of Denver, Bob LaFollette, ex-President Elliot of Harvard, Mayor Hunt, the chief foe of the infamous Cox ring in Cincinnati, and scores of others. But in the face of this list of advocates of this form of charter, Mr. Medynski wants the people of Medford to believe it contributes to boss-rule.

Council Favors New Charter
 Two-thirds of Mr. Medynski's letter discusses the late council. But why does he forget to say that that council favored this charter and

when he talks about its economies, why not say that the one member of that council who has been most hard working and effective in making economies, is enthusiastically supporting this charter? And would he not be fair to remind the people that it took that council six weeks to dig out of the city records a simple statement of how the city stood financially; that our present charter provides no bookkeeping and reporting provisions, which is one of the most important parts of the new charter? And why does he fail to say that every piece of extravagance that has ever happened in Medford was under our present worthless charter? May I also be excused for reminding Mr. Medynski that at a recent council meeting he publicly stated that "he considered the new charter excellent, save only the election plan."

Election System Democratic
 Mr. Medynski's objection to the election plan is practically that the Austrian ballot system is good enough for him. Perhaps it is. But years ago the people of Australia where it originated decided it was not good enough for them. They revised the plan used in our new charter, as scientific and democratic. Mr. Medynski says he is English. May I remind him that British parliament has adopted this plan for the Home Rule constitution for Ireland. It provides that one essential in a democracy, that every voter shall have his or her representative in a law making body. Our present system does not do that.

Challenges to Debate
 It would take too much of your valuable space for me to discuss all the merits of the new charter. They are many. But I want to conclude with a challenge to Mr. Medynski or anyone whom he may appoint, to debate the new charter with me at any public gathering. I will come to any that he may arrange, or I will arrange one for him. I assert that he cannot raise a single valid objection to the new charter and challenge him to come before a public gathering with any such purpose.

The charter commission of 21 citi-

Makes Stubborn Coughs Vanish in a Hurry
 Surprisingly Good Cough Syrup
 Easily and Cheaply Made at Home

If some one in your family has an obstinate cough or a bad throat or chest cold that has been hanging on and refuses to yield to treatment, get from any drug store 2 1/2 ounces of Pinex and make it into a pint of cough syrup, and watch that cough vanish.

Four the 2 1/2 ounces of Pinex (50 cents worth) into a pint bottle and fill the bottle with plain granulated sugar syrup. The total cost is about 54 cents, and gives you a full pint—a family supply—of a most effective remedy, at a saving of \$2. A day's use will usually overcome a hard cough. Easily prepared in 5 minutes—full directions with Pinex. Keeps perfectly and has a pleasant taste. Children like it.

It's really remarkable how promptly and easily it loosens the dry, hoarse or tight cough and heals the inflamed membranes in a painful cough. It also stops the formation of phlegm in the throat and bronchial tubes, thus ending the persistent loose cough. A splendid remedy for bronchitis, whooping cough, bronchial asthma and whooping cough.

Pinex is a special and highly concentrated compound of genuine Norway pine extract, rich in pinic acid, which is so healing to the membranes. Avoid disappointment by asking your druggist for "2 1/2 ounces of Pinex," and do not accept anything else. A guarantee of absolute satisfaction goes with this preparation or money promptly refunded. The Pinex Co., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

OPEN NOSTRILS! END A COLD OR CATARRH
 How To Get Relief When Head and Nose are Stuffed Up.

Count fifty! Your cold in head or catarrh disappears. Your clogged nostrils will open, the air passages of your head will clear and you can breathe freely. No more snuffing, hawking, mucous discharge, dryness or headache; no struggling for breath at night.

Get a small bottle of Ely's Cream Balm from your druggist and apply a little of this fragrant antiseptic cream in your nostrils. It penetrates through every air passage of the head, soothing and healing the swollen or inflamed mucous membrane, giving you instant relief. Head colds and catarrh yield like magic. Don't stay stuffed-up and miserable. Relief is sure.

John A. Perl
 UNDERTAKER
 Lady Assistant
 Mrs. S. BARTLETT
 Phone M. 47 and 47-39
 Ambulance Service Deputy Coroner

REPAIRING
 Done by
Expert Workman
 And Guaranteed
MARTIN J. REDDY
 JEWELER
 212 East Main St. Phone 101

seha asks the people to consider the charter on its merits. At least three meetings will be held this week to which all citizens are invited. With such an offering in the name of better government for Medford, can any good citizen range himself against the charter at the behest of a fanatical prejudice.

Portland Livestock Market
 PORTLAND, Or., Jan. 5.—Cattle—Steady.
 Hogs—Receipts 273, 25c lower.
 Prime light, \$7.70; medium, \$6.50; @6.75; light, \$6.25@6.50; rough, \$5.85@6.10.
 Sheep—Unchanged.
 Linn county tax levy is reduced three mills from last year.

THE PAGE SATURDAY ONLY

Matinee and Evening
 A scorching arraignment of modern society. An expose of their frivolities and dissipation by one of England's greatest playwrights.

Alfred Sutro
 Featuring that Great Actor,
Edmund Bresse
 With Claire Whitney and Stuart Holmes and others, in

The Walls of Jericho

No change in admission
 SATURDAY ONLY

THE PAGE

Medford's Leading Theater
 WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY
 Special Gold Seal

The District Attorney's Brother
 Two Parts

With Grace Cunard and Francis Ford
The Master Key
 Third Episode—Two Parts
 More thrilling than the preceding Episodes

Adventures of the Nimble Dollar
 Featuring the Two Stars,
 Cleo Madison and George Larkin

Two Good Comedies
 HEAR THE
 PAGE THEATRE ORCHESTRA
 Admission 5c, 10c, 15c
 Doors Open 7 P. M.

STAR Theatre

Quality Features
 Every Day
 Monday-Tuesday
 Mr. Francis X. Bushman
 And an all-star company in

An Unplanned Elopement
 One Part

Miss Mabel Trunnelle
 In a Two-Part Drama
A Question of Identity

Hearst-Selig War News
 A Mystery Feature
Within An Ace
 In Two Parts

A George Ade Fable
Aggie and the Aggravated Attacks

No feature too good for our patrons
 Admission Always
FIVE AND TEN CENTS

BRINGS COTTON TO GERMAN PORT

BREMEN, via The Hague and London, Jan. 5, 3.45 p. m.—Owing to the daring of an American skipper, the steamer Elmonte, which sailed from Galveston, Tex., December 3, and New York, December 11, arrived at Bremen January 1. The Elmonte brought more than 6000 bales of cotton, the first to reach this port during the war. She was the first American merchantman to visit Bremen in forty years.

Captain Edward T. Pinchin of the Elmonte, after the voyage across the Atlantic, took on a British pilot at Deal, as England now does not class cotton as contraband, but fearing that the pilot would be interned if he entered German waters, the captain dropped him at the Hook of Holland. At the Hook, Dutch pilots refused to assist the American skipper saying that it was impossible on account of mines to make the trip.

TO GERMANIZE RUSSIAN POLAND

BERLIN, Jan. 5, by wireless to London, 9.25 a. m.—Announcement is made here that the portion of Russian Poland occupied by the Germans has been provided with a civil administration under Herr von Brandenstein.

German airmen, it is also announced, have dropped bombs on British ammunition stores on the outskirts of Rosendaal and Gondskerque, near Dunkirk, France. The explosions, it is stated, killed and injured a hundred persons and set fire to a portion of one of the villages.

News from Durazzo, Albania, states that in the first fight in that vicinity a number of followers of Essad Pasha, the provisional president of Albania, who held back, were hanged.

LAND ALLIES CREWS ON CANARY ISLES

LAS PALMAS, Canary Islands, via Paris, Jan. 5, 3 a. m.—The German steamship Otavi has landed here a hundred sailors transferred to her by the German auxiliary cruiser Kron Prinz Wilhelm, representing the crews of four French and British vessels captured and sunk by the warship. The craft which fell into the hands of the Germans were the French steamer Mont Angel, which was sunk December 4; the British steamer Bellevue, sunk the same day; the French sailing vessel Annie Marie, sunk September 17; and the French ship Union, sunk November 22.

MONTANA SENATE STILL DEADLOCKED

HELENA, Mont., Jan. 5.—The state senate took two ballots on the selection of a president pro tem today but the deadlock remained unbroken. Notwithstanding the senate is not organized, a committee was named to notify Governor Stewart that it would meet with the house in joint session at noon to hear the message of the governor. The latter has announced that he will read his message at that hour.