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HONG KONG KOLUM

Man stay at summer hotel till money lun out—leddy till plitty dless lun out.

* * *

Diplomacy

The shah once asked a group of his courtiers whom they thought the greater man, himself or his father? At first he could get no reply to so dangerous a question, the answer to which might cost the courtiers their heads. At last a wily old courtier said:

"Your father, sire; for although you are equal to your father in all other respects, in this he is superior to you—that he had a greater son than any you have."

* * *

Any explorer should be decorated who can show that he has really discovered a new continent. One is sorely needed.—Chicago Daily News.

* * *

Even at this early date it is safe to say that carry the message for Dumba will never rank in popularity with "carrying the message to Garcia."—Chicago Herald.

* * *

To-Day's Bellringer

Captain J. D. Peppering of the British army, invalided back to London, recently made an address before a scientific body.

In the course of his talk he called attention to the terrific loss in officers sustained by the British army and declared that the Germans are always trying to disable or kill officers wherever opportunity presents itself.

"'In the field,' said Captain Peppering, 'it is now the custom for an officer to make himself look as much like a man as possible.'

Everybody laughed.

"That is, I mean," he explained, as much like a common soldier as possible."

* * *

Stella's Bargain Counter

Scandal—when one gets into the lime-light without makeup on.

Lots of "literature" is only litter.

* * *

The Last Fly of Summer

'Tis the last fly of summer,
Left Buzzing alone;
All his nasty companions
Are swatted and gone.
No bugs of his kindred,
No larvae is nigh
To echo his buzzing,
Or give sigh for sigh.

I'll not leave thee, thou lone one,
Upon the shade's hem;
Since thy brothers are sleeping,
Go thou with them.
Thus kindly I swat thee,
My hand on thy head;
Like thy mates of the summer,
Thou'rt buzzless and dead.

* * *

War Jokes

Rural Policeman (to artist at work)—Sketching the harbor is forbidden, sir.

Artist—Oh, that's all right. I'm only making a study of clouds.

Policeman—Ah! but supposin' your picture got into the hands of the enemy's aircraft department, see the use they could make of it!—London Punch.

CITY CONFRONTS A CRISIS

COUNCILMAN SARGENT, in a communication in this issue, calls attention to the serious crisis confronting the city and appeals to the patriotism and civic pride of officials and citizens to do their duty.

The city council has made no effort to collect either assessments or interest upon paving indebtedness. Instead, city officials are advising property owners not to pay, and indulging in wild schemes of frenzied finance to dodge payment of debts voluntarily contracted.

The interest upon these improvement bonds will soon be due. There is no money to pay it. No effort is being made to secure money owed to meet the obligation.

If the present course is continued, the city will default in its bond interest. This spells financial ruin. Medford will be blacklisted in every financial center of the United States. Its securities will be worthless, because there will be no market for them. It will be impossible to float any kind of a bond issue, no matter what the discount offered.

Agitation, such as that being conducted, only hastens the day of reckoning, complicates the situation and gets us nowhere. There is no use in talking of voting for them. nowhere. There is no use in talking of voting for new bonds. There never will be a market for them if the city defaults on a single interest payment on outstanding bonds. No one cares to purchase securities in a community where there is not sufficient sense of civic obligation to meet indebtedness contracted.

This blow will not be to the city only, but to everyone within it—and it will be a stunning one, from which the community will never recover. Medford will be posted throughout the country as financially untrustworthy and unsound—a good place to stay away from.

All this can be avoided if the city council will make an earnest effort to collect interest money due and citizens respond as they should to save the city's credit.

A Plea to the People of Medford

BY COL. H. H. SARGENT

I should like to have some of our citizens and taxpayers who are interested in the welfare of their home city go to the city recorder and find out from him where the money is going to come from to pay the interest that will be due on bonds in the next two or three months. He does not know; neither do the councilmen. Already to pay interest on paving assessments we have used up all the contingent fund, some of the water fund and a lot of the general fund.

It looks to me as if in the next two or three months the council will not be able to find even by transferring from other funds sufficient money to pay the interest on the bonds. In which case the city will have to default on the interest payments which ineed would be a calamity—a calamity from which the city would not recover in forty years.

This condition of affairs has been brought about by the citizens and taxpayers ofMedford stopping payment on their paving and sewer assessments. They have even failed to pay up the interest on same and consequently there is nothing coming in to meet the interest on these bonds. Many of these citizens are well able to pay but say they will not pay unless the others will pay up.

Even some of the city officials who owe on paving assessments, take this stand, and when you go to other citizens and ask them to pay up they reply they will not pay up until the city officials pay up—and there you have it; neither willing to do his duty in the matter unless the other first does his—but such action, or rather lack of action, is weak in the extreme; indeed if you will but stop to apply it to an army you will see that it is more than weak; it is cowardly also.

Suppose that a regiment in an army is ordered forward to meet the enemy, and it refuses to go until the other regiments go forward, and the others refuse to go until it goes. Such an army would be pronounced by every citizen of Medford who has courage and patriotism as big as a pinhead to be an army of cowards.

Now it is certain that whether this bond issue is voted up or voted down practically all the citizens of Medford do not want the city to default on its interest payments, and I am sure that nearly all the citizens of Medford have deep down in their souls the city's welfare at heart. And to these people I say come forward and, if possible, pay up your delinquent assessments. You can lose nothing by so doing, for if the bond issue passes you will get back what you have paid, and by so doing you will be largely instrumental in saving the city from defaulting before some satisfactory settlement can be made of the question.

There are a number of lawyers in this city who owe paving and sewer assessments but do not or will not pay them, and this fact has an enormous influence in keeping other citizens from paying, for the others say when told the assessments can be collected, "Why then does not lawyer so and so pay up; he must know they can not be collected, else he would pay up." In some cases no doubt this is due to carelessness, but whether due to carelessness or willfulness I plead with these lawyers, if they have a spark of patriotic feeling for their home city, to come forward and pay their assessments.

And I plead with the doctors too, for a goodly number fo them are also delinquent in this matter. There are also a number of city officials who owe paving or sewer assessments but do not or will not pay them, and this fact keeps others from paying. Only the past week or so one of the leading business men of teh city was asked to pledge himself to pay up his interest on condition that the council would bring suit against delinquents and he replied he would not do so until a certain citizen and two city officials, whom he named, did so.

Now I plead with the city officials one and all to pay their assessments. I for one feel that every man who is drawing a salary from the city treasury should be compelled to keep his sewer and paving assessments paid up or the money be deducted from his salary.

And I feel that we councilmen who have been placed in honored positions by the votes of the people should set the example by paying up if we have not already done so.

We have taken a "solemn oath to support the constitution and laws of the United States, the constitution and laws of the state of Oregon, the charter and ordinances of the city of Medford and that we will faithfully perform all the duties of the offices of councilmen as now or hereafter required by law." Does this oath mean nothing to some of us?

The Bancroft act is the Oregon lawunder which our pavements have been constructed and the charter and ordinances set forth in detail the method of collecting these delinquent assessments. Are we, or rather some of us, faithfully performing our duty in not only ont paying our assessments, but in justifying others in not paying theirs? Are we faithfully performing our duty as we are sworn to do when with the means provided we make no effort other than wagging our tongues to collect these assessments?

And the churches, a number of them, are way behind on their paving assment payments, and, somehow, I can not but feel that they should be foremost in meeting their just obligations in accordance with their written contracts. And I plead with the churches to come forward and pay up their delinquent paving assessments.

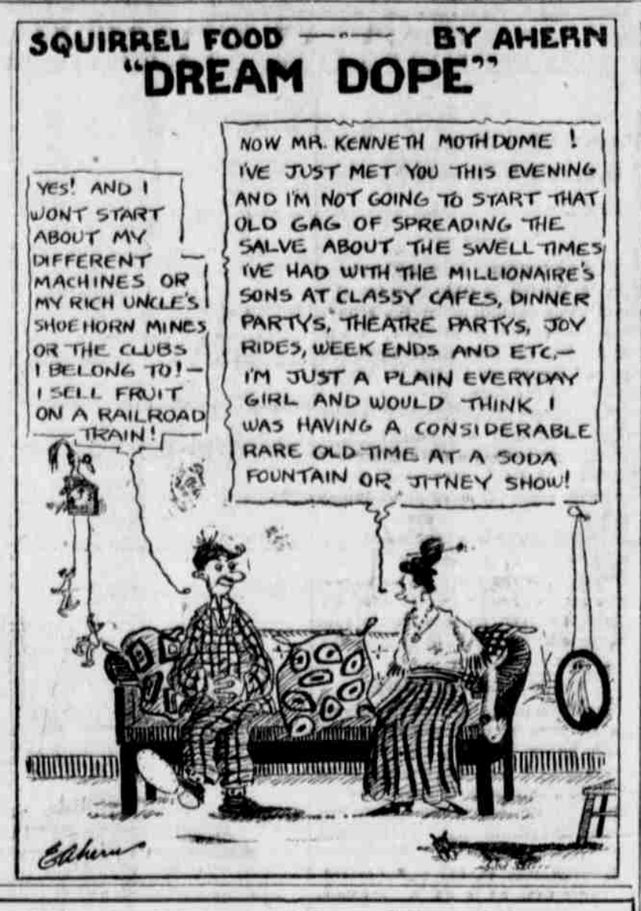
And there are a few prominent citizens in this town, well off and apparently respected who owe everything they have to their home city and yet who do not or will not pay their paving or sewer assessments. Should the city default on its interest payments it would be to this class an irreparable calamity and much their fault, and I plead with them to come forward and pay their sewer and paving assessments. And I plead with the merchants and hotels and corporations to do likewise, for surely there can be no hope for a prosperous future for them if the city fails to meet its obligations.

And a number of ladies of the city and The Greater Medford club have failed utterly to keep paid up even the interest on their paving assessments. And I appeal to them to come forwaro and pay up, for surely if any one has at heart the city's interest the ladies of Medford have.

Now if those named above would pay their interest and assessments—and nearly all are well able to do so—there would be little trouble with the city's finances, for the records show that taken all in all the poorer class of people have on an average paid up more promptly than the wealthier class.

Let us not then say that we will not pay up our interest and assessments unless the others do, but let us rather say, whatever the others do, we at least will pay our delinquent interest now and our delinquent assessments as soon as we can conveniently do so.

During these last few weeks I have frequently felt that there is greatly needed here in Mdford just now some man of brains who with eloquent tongue and fiery words could arouse our citizens to a true sense of civic honesty and civic righteousness. Would that I could speak words like Thomas Carlysle—words like Austerlitz battles—which would drive home the facts and thoughts here presented and make the people of Medford see the importance of this matter before it is too late.



News From Our Neighbors

TALENT TALK

Mr. Morse and son, Wilmer, left on Monday for Salem to attend the state fair.

Dr. and Mrs. Hart are rejoicing over the birth of a baby girl.

Little Dorothy Pinkerton was injured badly by being kicked by a horse. One of her fingers was dislocated and she was bruised over the right eye.

Ray Reynolds started to school at Ashland last Monday. Ray was a junior in Talent last year.

A surprise party was given last Saturday night for Mrs. Herman Sommer. A good crowd attended and refreshments were served. Every one had an enjoyable time.

Mr. and Mrs. Vandershuis and daughter, Alice, attended the Elks' dedication in Medford.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Abbott were presented last Friday night with a baby girl.

Georgie Stannard, Earl Dahuff, Harry Silver and Clark Payne motored down from Ashland to see the Gow's. They enjoyed the performance very much.

Carl Froman left yesterday for Portland, where he will spend a few weeks with parents and friends.

The Parent-Teachers' circle will meet tonight in the school auditorium. Topics of interest will be discussed and also a few musical pieces will be given.

The Gow's gave a sleight-of-hand performance in the Talent school auditotrium last Saturday evening.

Mr. Gow explained the tricks after the performance was over. Everything was enjoyed by the small crowd which attended.

John Robison, wife, daughter and Mrs. Coleman went to the hatchery today. Mr. Robison got six fish and his daughter the same number.

Rev. Williams will give a stereopticon lecture on "Ben Hur" next Saturday night at the Christian church. The price of admission will be 15 and 25 cents.

Albert Bruley resumed his school work Monday.

The school visitors of the past week were Mrs. Adamson, Mrs. Holdridge, Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Wolgamott, Mrs. Jacobs and Mrs. Morse.

A. L. Loomis and family of Medford spent last Sunday with Mr. Powers of Wagner creek.

Mrs. Platte of Medford was in Talent today taking subscriptions for magazines.

WILLOW SPRINGS

The government surveyors are at work in the neighborhood this week.

Many Willow Springs Elks attended the festivities in Medford last week.

Real estate and apple buyers have been in the district numerous times this week.

A number of social functions in honor of the Misses King, Chaubuck, Shepherd and Gunderson occurred this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilkerson left for eastern Oregon for a several weeks' visit.

Miss Viederwecht and Henry Riley were pleasant visitors in this neighborhood Monday evening.

Mrs. E. B. Pickard and son, Charles, left for Portland Monday evening to join Mr. Pickard.

Mr. Alexander of Central Point is erecting a commodious barn on the Cochran property and has secured Mr. Ackerman as contractor.

Charles Law met with a painful accident while at school last week, which has confined him to his home for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Thompson were charming host and hostess at a week end house party. Miss Doris Bagley of Rogue River, Mrs. Kentner and Fletcher Fish were the honored guests.

Miss Tillie Gunderson and Miss Edith Shepherd of Elgin, Ill., departed for San Francisco after enjoying several weeks 'visit with friends in Rogue River valley.

The Misses Hamilton of Surprise Valley gave a picnic supper at their home Saturday evening in honor of Medford and Rogue River guests.

The social hour of the Grange was indeed a musical event, as three members and friends were honored by the presence of three well-known artists of the valley—Miss Doris Bagley, Mrs. Kentner and Fletcher Fish. The program was as follows: Violin solo, Shubert's "Serenade," Albert Torgey; vocal solo, "Alpine Rose," Miss Rose Jones; reading, "At Sea," Mrs. W. A. Cowley; piano solo, selected, Lorena Law; vocal solo, "Good-Bye," Miss Doris Bagley; vocal solo, "Fishing," Fletcher Fish.

The ladies of the Grange served sandwiches, coffee and watermelon at the close of the program. Next meeting of the Grange will be held in two weeks.

Mr. Chance, father of Mrs. Pierce of the Pacific highway, passed beyond on Sunday and will be buried in Albany.

Mrs. Ray Nichols will entertain the Parent-Teachers club at her home on Saturday afternoon, assisted by Mrs. Bert Nichols.

BUTTE FALLS BUBBLES

Mrs. E. James, Mrs. E. Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Cadzow took a pleasure trip to Crater lake the first part of the week by George Alberts in the auto.

Mrs. Farris and daughter, who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Ray Spencer left Tuesday.

The fish commissioners were up Thursday trying to locate a place for a hatchery near Butte Falls. We are greatly in hopes they found a place.

Mr. Ropps has sold his house and lot to R. Lownes. They are intending to leave here for Pasadena Tuesday.

The music committee of the U. C. E. S. are planning on an entertainment to be given at the hall October 15. Interment to be given at the hall October 15. Admission 5 and 10 cents. It sure will be worth your money, which is to pay off the remaining debt.

It was reported that someone had broken into Day's store Friday evening. The store was searched, but no burglar could be found. A new door will have to be got, is all the damage or loss that could be found.

A dance was given Friday eve at Hildred's hall. Had a large crowd and a good time. Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Moore furnished the music.

Miss Edyth Creede, teacher of the Rancherie school, visited Mrs. F. Carson Saturday and Sunday.

E. W. Smith was moved from Devil Peak to Lodge Pole. His wife left Saturday noon for Lodge Pole to be with him for some time.

Another fire was discovered Saturday up at the Charles Parker place. It is under control now. Did little damage.

The Misses Alice Smith, Hildred Heryford, Etta Stewart, Charles Patton, C. H. Branchla, Ray Parker, Herbert Walker and Lester Abbott were entertained out at Miss Nita Sears' homestead Saturday. All had a fine time.

The intermediate class of the union Sunday school met at Mrs. O. B. Moore's and organized Monday eve. Merrill Stewart was elected president, Cecile Peelor vice-president, Noma Stewart secretary-treasurer. "Hustlers" was chosen for their name, red and white for their class colors.

PRESIDENT WILSON TALKS TO WAR VETERANS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—Veterans of the civil war here for the annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic were formally welcomed to the capital last night by President Wilson, who told them that their battles fifty years ago were fought that the greatest instrumentality for the uplift of mankind the world has ever seen might not be impaired.

The president spoke amid scenes of patriotic ferver in the crowded convention hall into which the old census building had been converted.

Colonel David J. Palmer, commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. introduced him amid thunderous cheering, and informed him that the veterans stood solidly behind the administration's conduct of the present day foreign problems, and that their sons would support him in any steps he might take.

Applause frequently interrupted the president as he spoke to the veterans, their families and friends. He did not touch directly on the European war or on problems growing out of it, but devoted his address to the mission of the United States and the lessons taught by the civil war. He spoke of the Civil war as on of the few in history of which both sides could be proud.

The meeting marked the formal opening of the Grand Army encampment, which will continue during the remainder of the week with the great parade and presidential review tomorrow.

Junction public schools have added industrial course.