

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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HONG KONG KOLUM

Gas O'Leon. I never get excited when I my auto skids or skates. For "safety lies in numbers" and I'm tagged in seven states.

GROUP FEEBLE MINDEDNESS

THE MEDICAL TIMES calls attention to "group ineffectuality." The sudden attacks of panic and hysteria to which mobs are subject have frequently been mentioned in studies of mob psychology, but this article calls attention to the feeble-mindedness of crowds as exemplified by popular fads. Says the Times:

In all our considerations of social and industrial exploitation we over-emphasize the greed and oppressiveness of the master class. But little account is taken of a great factor that enters into the problem, and that is group-feeble-mindedness. The degree to which people can be exploited must often be a revelation to the exploiters, and the boldness of the latter in activities unfortunately affecting great numbers of the public is often best accounted for on the basis of knowledge concerning the defectiveness of the victims.

Collective foolishness gives expression to latent individual foolishness. If there was not a large percentage of the feeble-minded among the people the psychology of the mob would not develop it.

Even the wisest and strongest are tainted with folly and weakness, and the restraint governing the individual is loosened by the crowd. Relaxation from the accepted formula is a demand of nature and wisdom parades as folly. The relapse may be unexplainable phenomena, but it is none the less human nature.

The brains of many cease growth when the physical growth of the body ceases. Arrested mental development is not by any means confined to the feeble-minded institutes. Those whose brain development ceases in childhood are called "morons," but there are any quantity of people who never develop intellectually after the teens. Certain types seem immune from mental growth with brains responding only to primitive action patterns—which are the brain action patterns of the mob.

The coming political campaign will afford an interesting study of group ineffectuality as well as individual feeble-mindedness. Crowds will become hysterically enthusiastic and individuals wildly emotional over sinister subjects and selfish candidates, topics which only remotely and abstractly concern them. The fetish of a party name still charms as the magic of an Indian medicine man to lure the unthinking into voluntary bondage. Superstition, tradition and ignorance entice the electorate into the power of the exploiter, for in politics, buncombe, bombast and bluster supplant logic, reason and sense.

Wisdom ever dwells with folly. Humanity crucifies its saviors, but raises them from the dead to deify them. It crowns its mad Caesars, but robs their sepulchres for execution. Stampeded by organized greed into wholesale, murderous folly, it will in turn exterminate its destroyers. Bewildered democracy votes away its birthright for political promises, but eventually will seize it by confiscation. All are steps in the slow and painful climb of the winding spiral of progress.

THEDA BARA IN "CARMEN" AT THE PAGE THEATER



CARMEN READS HER DEATH IN THE CARDS. W.M. FOX PRODUCTION

All who know the story of "Carmen" chiefly through the version of Bizet's opera as seen from time to time on the stage, will find welcome relief in the William Fox visualization from some of the artificial episodes expander into a working libretto by the industrious Melhine and Halevy. The fatuous and incredible ruse of Carmen's escape, the introduction of the pale Michaela, the improbable absence from the amphitheater for theatrical reasons of "Carmen," the one person most likely to occupy a seat of honor, are all much changed.

Theda Bara's conception of Carmen is peculiarly her own and she makes most of her opportunity. Her fight in the cigarette factory and her death scene are triumphs of dramatic skill. She displays throughout the wonderful facial control that has made her famous in the moving picture world.

The Medford line-up for the first game of the championship of southern Oregon for tomorrow evening was given out today by Coach Klam. The team that will take the floor to defend Medford's honor is: Williamson, forward; Thomas (captain), forward; Brandon, center; Young, guard; Torney, guard; Fish, Olinstead and Niergrah, substitutes.

Torney will be used as the base-scoring guard, because of his speed and accuracy at shooting baskets. He has played this position all year. He will be selected to guard Prady, who is a fast scoring forward.

Young will be used as stationary guard with the duty of preventing Grisez, the Ashland phenom, from scoring. He has been coached for the past week to stick to his man and instructed not to attempt to score a basket. He has his work cut out for him if he succeeds in holding the forward forward to one or two baskets. Ashland is betting Grisez will score ten baskets off Young.

Sickness has entered into the fight against the local team and has caused considerable worry. Thomas, the captain, has been under the weather with a severe cold for the past week and last night began practicing again. He is in good condition now, but it has slowed him up in speed.

Brandon is improving at center and has conquered his fault of holding the ball. He is getting it away more quickly and shooting with better accuracy. He is on the sick list this week, suffering from an injury to his feet. The coach has laid him off in hope that the rest will get him in good condition.

The girls' team, which also plays Ashland for the championship, at Southern Oregon as a preliminary to

SWEDEN TO REMAIN NEUTRAL IN CONFLICT

STOCKHOLM, March 2.—"Sweden is just as determined as she was eighteen months ago not to interfere in the war, so long as she can maintain her national honor and dignity," said Eric Trolle, formerly Swedish minister of foreign affairs, and late minister to Germany, discussing the country's policy.

The only consideration on which Sweden would end her neutrality would be one involving violation of her sovereign rights by belligerents. I do not believe, however, that any of the belligerents would take the risk of adding to the enemies they have at present. The Swedish government and people are unanimous in favor of peace, but not of peace which means a sacrifice of rights.

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APPLIGATE

William York of Missouri Flat made a trip to Steamboat Tuesday after some cattle that he had not seen since they were turned on the range in the spring. Dick Rock helped him out with the cattle, returning home Thursday.

Heben and Charles Mee, who are going to high school in Central Point, came out home Saturday, re-

at Rose's hall, March 9. The meeting is to promote a better understanding between the forest service and the stockmen will expect to see all the stockmen present.

The basketball game between Rich and Appligate Saturday night at Rose's hall was quite a lively game. Appligate winning by a score of 26 to 21.

Dr. Walker and a party of friends from Grants Pass picnicked near the Appligate bridge Sunday.

There hasn't been very much interest taken in registering in this precinct so far, as there are only two that have registered.

Mrs. Brown received a telegram from Iowa last Saturday telling of her mother's death, who has been ill for some time.

A light fall of snow was on the ground Wednesday morning.

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Ed Potter went to Grants Pass last Thursday to be gone several days on business.

O. E. Rose and daughter, Mr. Chapman and Mr. Gussky motored to Grants Pass Thursday.

J. W. Fennell and Marie Benedict were Grants Pass visitors Thursday.

The school girls' basketball team gave a dance Saturday night to raise funds to pay their expenses when playing outside teams. There was a good crowd and a neat sum was collected.

George Hoffmann of Thompson creek left Tuesday on the stage for Jacksonville and Medford for a few days.

PIERCE ARROW STRIKE FAILS TO MATERIALIZE

BUFFALO, N. Y., March 2.—Five machinists of the Pierce Arrow Automobile company went out on strike today in response to a strike vote at a meeting of the machinists' union. More than 1500 machinists remained at work. The plant has large war orders for motor trucks.

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