

# SUPERINTENDENT WM. DAVENPORT AND SCHOOL BOARD CONDEMNED AT PARENTS' MEETING YESTERDAY

The fire which has long been smoldering in the parent-teacher circles of the city has been fanned into a blaze by the wholesale dropping of teachers by the school administration.

The fire reached such proportions at a called meeting of the Parent-Teacher council, which is composed of the officers of the various Parent-Teacher associations of the city, held yesterday afternoon at the public library that a resolution calling upon Superintendent Davenport to resign was read. It would have been adopted unanimously in view of the temper of the assemblage, but wiser council prevailed and it was decided to hold the resolution in abeyance until after tonight's meeting with the school board at which the board's side and superintendent's side of the situation is expected to be given, and at which the Parent-Teacher bodies will demand the reason why each teacher was lopped off from next year's staff.

**Mass Meeting Tonight**  
The meeting tonight with the school board is in the nature of a public mass meeting and the Parent-Teacher council urges the parents of the pupils and all school patrons to attend. The meeting is expected to be very interesting. The meeting will be held at the high school building and begins at 7:30 o'clock.

The superintendent and school board were invited to attend yesterday afternoon's hurriedly arranged meeting at 4 o'clock, but they did not attend because of the time set for the gathering and invited the Parent-Teacher council to attend the board's regular meeting tonight.

**Can't Ignore Situation**  
Mrs. E. V. Maddox president of the council, in calling the meeting together, and stating its purpose, stated her regret that things had reached such a stage in the educational affairs of the city, but said that the situation could not be ignored as the school administration had treated a number of the oldest and most efficient teachers unfairly and with injustice by dropping them from next year's teaching staff. "We don't want a rash," Mrs. Maddox said, "but we want to see that justice is done."

She then stated that the meeting was open for expression of opinion. The speaking was slow in starting, but after one or two had spoken, it began rapidly to warm up, the speakers bobbing up one after another as pop corn does in the pan. All the remarks were of the same tenor, uncomplimentary to the administration of Superintendent Davenport and the school board and commending a number of the well known teachers who had been deposed. A number of the deposed teachers, as well as teachers who had been retained were present and

took part in the meeting. There were only three men present, including a timid, trembling newspaper reporter.

**Reason for Dissatisfaction**  
The only male speaker was Wm. J. Warner, assistant postmaster, who arrived late. He said that the way he looked at the situation after having delved into it from every angle was that if a teacher backed up Mr. Davenport she was a very efficient educator, but if she did not back him up she was only a mediocre teacher. His brief remarks were greeted with approval.

In fact, every utterance of the speakers was met with head nods and "yes sirs" of approval, and sometimes handclapping broke forth.

One speaker who advocated cleaning out the school board as well as the superintendent, aroused enthusiasm.

One fact brought out at the meeting was that the school board members never visited the schools, and several teachers said that Superintendent Davenport had never visited their rooms and given them personal advice or personally consulted them about their teaching. One teacher said that in six years only one member of a school board had visited her school room and he was Mr. Palmer, who made his visit a year or two ago.

**Many Speeches Made**  
Excerpts from the various talks made at the meeting are the following:

"We have the right as tax payers and parents of pupils to know the reasons of the superintendent and school board for the dropping of these teachers. This dropping of experienced, efficient teachers is all the more remarkable because of the great shortage of teachers generally throughout the United States.

"The teachers were rejected in a way that is not only a great injustice to them, but to the school patrons and pupils.

"The school administration, in its efforts to maintain the schools at high standard should do it by evaluation and not by revolution. We are all in sympathy with maintaining a high standard, but long proven teachers of known efficiency should be retained in service, although they are not quite up to the normal school or college standard set by the administration. They stayed with the Medford schools teaching during the war, although they could have gone to other cities at much increased salaries and thereby made our girls and boys better by their example."

"Would it not have been much better if the superintendent had quietly hinted to the teachers who were to be dropped that they should not make application to teach here next year? This would have left them in a much better position to find schools elsewhere. As it is, a great injustice has been done them."

**Future Outlook Dubious**  
"The Medford schools are ruined for next year if these discharges of capable teachers are allowed to stand, through the fact that the teachers will all be nervous and apprehensive for fear of doing some trifling little thing wrong. The schools are even somewhat demoralized for the rest of this year because of this teachers' situation. Why, in the high school today the students were busy all day long in circulating and drawing up petitions for the retention of this or that teacher that was dropped."

"If the dropped teachers were deposed because of not being in sympathy with the administration, why then, every teacher in the Medford schools should feel the ax. They are all of one sentiment."

"If Mr. Davenport wants to dismiss these teachers perhaps that is all the more reason why they should be retained." (Applause.)

"By removing five of its best teachers, the backbone of the staff of Washington school has been taken away."

"This is a matter for our rejuvenated chamber of commerce to take up and act on for the public good."

## Gudrun Walberg as "Sunshine Lady" at Page Next Monday



Comparative comments, by many eastern critics of the season's musical comedy output, seems to promise a genuine treat in the forthcoming appearance at the Page theatre, Monday night, March 15, of "My Sunshine Lady," LeComte and Flesher's brilliant, fairy-tale musical play.

Extravagantly staged and colorful, unusually happy in its cast of musical comedians and "enems," an abundant chorus of amply dressed beauties, and withal, reveling in that rarity—in these days of musical shows—in a really funny plot,—it has been quite generally conceded by eastern reviewers that it "possesses about all of the essentials to musical-comedy popularity and offers the most exuberant evening's entertainment of anything discovered on Broadway since the duly first national advent of the two and seventy-five hundredths per cent."

The book and lyrics by Howard McKent Barnes and the score by Harry Alford brings together one of the most promising combinations of author and composer since Gilbert and Sullivan's vogue and their delightfully successful collaboration in this work has given them prominence second to no other duo of present day young writers for the stage.

The play is properly plotless, yet the situations are breezily connected and the relations of the many picturesque characters in the ludicrous complication are distinctly interwoven.

## GRAND CHANCELLOR VISITS K. P. LODGE ON 29TH MARCH

At last night's meeting of the Knights of Pythias it was announced that the grand chancellor of the domain of Oregon, Julian V. Hurley would pay an official visit to this lodge, March 29th. As state senator he has represented eastern Oregon for several years with success. He is an able and brilliant speaker, and local knights are looking forward to an interesting session. A delegation of knights from Hornbrook extended an invitation to their ball, Friday, March 19th, the event being a sort of house-warming of their newly purchased hall. "Standing room only" will have to be displayed at future

meetings. Since the D. O. K. R. tem- working for the next ceremonial at ple has been installed everyone in Yreka early in June.

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## START CAMPAIGN GAME VIOLATORS JACKSON COUNTY

A vigorous campaign in Jackson county has been started against violation of the game laws and notice has been served by local game wardens that violators will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

On Sunday Game Wardens Ed Walker and Pat Daily started their offensive against violators and in record time made two hauls, one in the Little Butte district, and the other on the Applegate at the other end of the county.

In the first raid Louis Walsh and Lester Bradshaw were arrested when caught in the act of dogging deer. They confessed their crime before Justice Taylor Monday, Walsh, owner of the dogs and an old offender being fined \$50 and Bradshaw, his companion, \$25. Both young men belong to prominent families in the Wellen district.

On the Applegate Roy Pike and Robert Tubbs were arrested in the act of dynamiting fish just below the government hatchery. As fines for this offense exceed \$200 both young men were held for the grand jury, although they offered to plead guilty.

Daily and Walker believe that these two arrests will go far toward doing away with similar violations of the game code in southern Oregon.

In the first arrest the two game wardens hid behind a rotten log for nearly an hour watching Walsh and Bradshaw and had the unpleasant experience of having the shots at the deer pass over their heads as pursued by the dogs it ran within twenty feet of them. In neither case did the offenders make an resistance. In the Butte creek district although there is no public sentiment against killing deer for food there is strong sentiment against using dogs for this tends to scare the deer out of that part of the country entirely.

Incidentally the officers found a strong run of steelhead in the Applegate and prodict that in spite of low water there will be good steelhead fishing in Rogue river this summer.

## FORDNEY CHARGES ATTEMPT TO KILL BONUS LEGISLATION

WASHINGTON, Mar. 9.—Charges that members of the house ways and means committee were "endeavoring to kill bonus legislation by delay" were made today by Chairman Fordney when the committee resumed hearings on soldier relief legislation.

"I am ready to begin business now," the chairman said, when members suggested hearings be postponed until after the legislative committee of the American Legion has met March 22 to further consider soldier relief plans.

"I don't want to crowd this measure, but we know the attitude of former service men," the chairman continued. "Every officer who had good pay doesn't want a bonus. The privates who suffered financial losses are overwhelmingly in favor of some relief plan."

Representative Kitchin, democrat, North Carolina, said treasury department officials ought to be heard by the committee before any plan was worked out.

The committee decided to call Secretary Houston, Assistant Secretary Leffingwell and Governor Harding of the federal reserve board Thursday.

**NO MAN'S LAND IS BEING SEEDED WITH HUN GRAIN**

PARIS, Mar. 9.—(French wireless service)—Sowing of the devastated areas of France has been expedited by deliveries from Germany of oats and barley, according to orders of the reparations commission. The minister of the liberated regions reports that this seed is of excellent quality.

## RECORD PRODUCTION OF MINERALS IN CANADA

QUEBEC, Mar. 9.—A record value of \$20,701,000 for mineral production in Canada, was reached in 1919, according to the annual report of the Quebec bureau of mines of the department of colonization, mines and fisheries, issued today. The total was nearly \$2,000,000 more than that for 1918.

If You've Any Doubts as to whether coffee is a friend to your nerves, drink two or three cupfuls at bedtime and think about it during the wakeful night.

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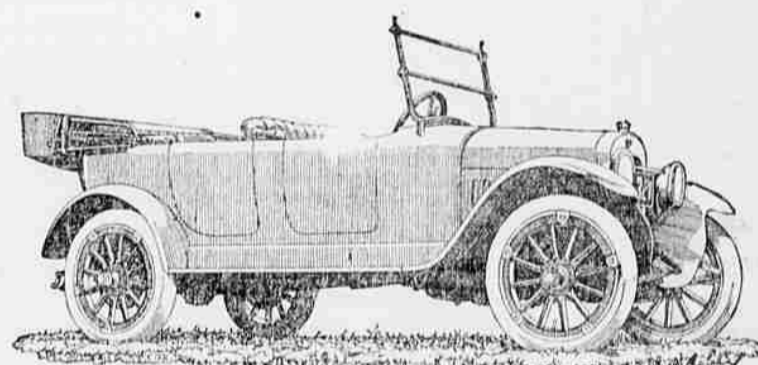
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