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Smudge Smoke

Friday was the 13th, and the luck was no worse than usual.

The long prayer for (also cussed for) rain, started last Sat. a week, and kept up till the end of the week. It was a fine thing for man and beast, and the beasts seemed to enjoy it the most, as they stood out in it, and let the raindrops pelt them in the lumbar region. Man did not do that, except a few of the fashionable, who wear no hats, and have their hair greased.

E. Ulrich, the Elk Creek hillbilly, was handcuffed by Daniel Cupid the past week.

The front of a building in Phoenix is covered with deer horns, and, as yet has not been shot for a deer.

An Oregon car and a California car crashed head-on Thurs. mo. and the Oregon car was to blame. The driver of the California car, who was a one-man Good Will Caravan, insisted he was in the wrong, as he did not want to establish a precedent, and put a blotch on the escutcheon of the Golden State, for not always being erroneous on the highways. The Oregon driver reluctantly acceded, and promised to drive down into California soon, and return the compliment.

There has been a heavy decrease in committee meetings, as most of the committeemen have skinned out for the south, or Europe, or New York, or round the globe, on business, and whatever pleasure they can't evade gracefully.

Charles Strang, the pioneer pillist, played golf in the rain, without being forced to take any of his own pneumonia cure.

All the stockmen have cows nibbling at their haystacks. F. Preston of the Applegate was in the saddle Thurs. and had a fine canter after a bullheaded steer, that wanted to get into Charles C. Hoover's Poa Bulbosa patch, but was balked by the horsemanship of Mr. Preston.

The roads are not muddy enough to tell a car from Butte Falls, by the red mud on the fenders.

Jim Owen has recovered from a cold he caught in the East, and has gone back to catch another one.

The Older Girls have been busy all week socializing, and looking fierce at each other for playing the deuce of spades, instead of the ace of hearts. Bridge is becoming so serious that the average layman prefers a game, where he can say something cute once in a while, without having his head bit off by an irate member of the weaker sex. Bridge is the most unsociable of the sociable games. On the other hand, it is great mental exercise.

LOUISIANA GOVERNOR HAS BASEBALL HOBBY

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — While other governors follow the calm sports of golf and angling, Gov. Huey P. Long, fiery young executive of Louisiana, has harked back to his youth and taken up baseball as his hobby.

In his school days, Huey was much feared in the pitchers' box of the sand lots and once or twice professional baseball scouts watched him work but he preferred politics to baseball.

Now he has concluded that politics and baseball make a good mixture and this summer he joined the Tin Can League, made up of pros and scrubs of yesterday.

WALL STREET RECOVERS CONSERVATIVE TEMPER

NEW YORK (AP)—Financial advertisements tell a story of their own about the public's current attitude toward stocks and bonds.

"Sound," "conservative," dependable," "seasoned" and similar words figure in almost every advertisement.

Preferred stocks, good bonds and the highest grade of high yield common stocks form the bulk of issues offered to the public today.

Reischbank To Build

BERLIN (AP)—More than a score of dwellings in old Berlin are soon to be torn down to make room for a new Reischbank building. The old structure, built in 1876, and enlarged in 1894, long has been inadequate for the bank's rapidly increasing business.

We trust the new sites offered for Humane Society headquarters will prove mutually satisfactory. One might think, to hear the recent talk, that the Humane Society were after a pest-house, or a refuse-dump; rather than a plot of ground on which to erect buildings to shelter and care for neglected and ailing animals.

The cause of this strange "complex" toward the Humane Society remains as great a mystery as when we commented upon it, a few weeks ago. We don't know of a place on the Pacific Coast, or in any other part of the country, where the Humane Society does not occupy an important place in the civic betterment program, and is not accorded generous and wholehearted moral and financial support.

* * *

In Oakland the Humane Society has headquarters in one of the most desirable sections of the city; in San Francisco its animal hospital is a few steps from the municipal center. In the East and Middle West, Humane Societies flourish, and engage the interested attention of the most influential and most public spirited citizens.

But in Medford for some strange reason, while no one appears to have the disposition to publicly oppose it, when the Humane Society tries to do something, local officials, either offer vague excuses, or run to cover as if they feared the bubonic plague.

* * *

Strange, very strange. We wouldn't blame the officials of the Humane Society for becoming discouraged and giving up the venture entirely. For certainly they have no selfish interest to serve, and if the people of Medford don't want a Humane Society, they would no doubt be glad to devote their money and time in other directions.

But this is not their attitude——FORTUNATELY. They are going ahead and inspite of obstacles do all they can to establish and further a cause in which they sincerely believe.

So we hope one of these new sites will be satisfactory, and the present controversy can be amicably settled and forgotten. Some mysteries are interesting, but the Humane Society mystery, to most obsrvers at least, has only been depressing.

The sooner it is terminated, or cleared up, the better for all concerned.

IS THE U. S. SENATE AN EXCLUSIVE CLUB?

A friend has presented us with an editorial from the New York Times, which so closely follows the reasoning of this column, anent the Vare-Grundy case, that we are giving it the distinguished honor of filling up the rest of this column this Sabbath morning. The editorial was written on December 7th, before the appointment of Brother Grundy,—but the reference to Uncle Joe nevertheless is not only amusing, but very pat.

Here it is:

For a long time it has been certain that the Senate would refuse to seat William S. Vare of Pennsylvania. Long familiarity with an impending act, even one so unjust as this, breeds indifference in the public mind. When it was first clear that Mr. Vare would not be admitted, there were expressions of indignation in many quarters. Now, when three years have passed, there will not be so many. Even when its committee, after spending nearly $200,000 for investigating William B. Wilson's election contest against Mr. Vare, reported his choice had been legally made, the Senate majority did not change its mind about the ouster. The fact that his large expenditures had been made in a party primary—a state, not a national, poll—and that his opponents had spent more than Mr. Vare did, made no difference to the Senate's majority. From the viewpoint of these Senators, he had violated a canon lying somewhere between taste and morals, and they were determined not to seat him. By a vote of 58 to 22 yesterday they adhered to their determination to exclude him.

* * *

It is agreed by all authorities that the Senate has the stark power to shut out a member-elect if, as has often been said, "it does not fancy the color of his hair." Like the board of governors of a club, it can reject a man without giving any reason. "The Senate shall be the sole judge of its own membership," said the organic law, which at the same time decreed that each state should have two Senators. The irresistible force of the latter provision met, in this instance, the immovable object of the former; the Senate would not budge; and Pennsylvania was denied her rights under the Constitution. Here again is one of those conflicts of law which generally provoke injustice. In this affair the majority had nothing to fear. A few champions of the spirit of democratic institutions might publicly complain, but the indifferent masses of home constituents would nod in agreement with the explation that "Vare is a political boss and tried to buy his way in." Pennsylvania might demand her rights, but she could not secede. So the job being feasible, it was done. And only a handful of Republican Senators protested by their votes against the high-handed procedure, fraught with many disturbing possiblities hereafter.

* * *

If it be true that Governor Fisher is to appoint Joseph R. Grundy to the vacant seat, Pennsylvania will be amply avenged on the Senate majority. As a private citizen he faced the fire of its lobby committee and managed to leave several arrows sticking in thin hides. As a Senator he would no longer be subject to bully-ragging and brow-beating, and his late assailants will be targets for some expert marksmanship. Instead of having—as for recent years—only one Senator, Pennsylvania, with Reed and Grundy, will at times seem to have three.

Watching the ticker wasn't scriptural anyway. "Six days shalt thou labor."

But we have parity now haven't we, if three Yankees can lick nine of any other breed?

Americanism: Keeping the cook busy by throwing away our cookies when she gets a new batch ready.

Note on swellhead: An ant is proud of reaching the top of a chip because it isn't big enough to see the mountain just ahead.

Fifteen Years Ago This Week

(From the files of The Mail Tribune)

Monday

Formal notice served upon the Rose Society vaudeville managers, that nothing stronger than liquid water can be served during the performance in Ashland.

Cold wave sweeps East and Middle West.

Mrs. Ed Lamport sustained a fractured arm in cranking her car, when the self-starter balked.

Systematic campaign is planned for sugar beet acreage.

Tuesday

Allied armies begin general advance along entire Western front.

Coldest weather of the season hits valley, with mercury at 21 degrees above zero, and all shrubbery white with frost.

A Christmas atmosphere prevails in the stores of the city.

W. H. Gore says "Masterly delay, accounts for the failure to name the sugar beet committee."

Wednesday

German fleet shells Dick Sherwood's old home town in England, and Mr. Sherwood writes the editor a letter of indignation.

Glen Laidley named high school reporter for the Mail-Tribune.

H. C. Kentner leaves for New York City to accept a position with a large firm.

Fire burns 200 chickens in Rogue River Poultry company warehouse. Fire blamed on "a cigarette smoking tramp."

Mr. and Mrs. Porter J. Neff return from attending the Commonwealth conference at Eugene.

Thursday

"It Is A Crime to Come From the East," is the topic of an editorial. The editor concludes, it is not.

Chief of Police J. F. Hittson confined to his home with a severe cold.

Judge W. E. Phipps wins suit to have sewer reassessments on Riverside avenue declared null and void.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Gates have arrived from Peoria, Ill., and will soon be at home on Geneva avenue.

Friday

Headline: "Allies forcing German lines slowly, surely."

Fletcher Fish of Phoenix was a business visitor in the city; also Frank Bybee of Jacksonville.

Miss Vera Olmstead, a student at the University of Oregon, is home for the Christmas vacation.

John Bunny at the Star theater tonight, with Flora Finch.

Earl C. Gaddis implores all citizens to study the proposed new charter.

Saturday

Edgar S. Hafer formulates a plan for the building of a lumber mill and box factory.

Mrs. C. I. Hutchinson entertained the Thursday Bridge club Saturday.

The most finished performance was the impersonation of the "Handsome Hick," by Hon. A. E. Reames. His every move evoked uproarious applause.

The Commercial club is sending out a circular letter urging aid for the war-ridden Belgians.

Press Comment

If plans of the state chamber of commerce are carried out, that old "inferiority complex" that we have heard so much about will be lost in the discard, and from now on everyone, in a literal as well as figurative sense, will stick up for Oregon.

Some of the more striking of the state's assets and advantages will be sketched in a series of colorful poster stamps, which are to be distributed among 30,000 business and professional men over the state, to be attached to letters going out to all parts of this country and abroad.

There correspondents will be admonished to "Eat Oregon apples—the nation's finest and most delicious." They will be told of "Oregon first in the Pacific Northwest in prunes," "Oregon first in United States hops," in fiber flax, in wool production, and similar slogans will mention lumber, wheat and other major products of the state.

Scenic attractions will be included in this publicity and the tourist as well as the settler and investor will be invited to the "Green Land" of the Northwest.

In order that the short story of the sticker may be followed by more complete information, each stamp will carry a line, "Ask for all the facts—write our chamber of commerce," and the reader needs only to glance at the post mark to get the address.

The sticker which rides postage free on a letter that is going anyway; that costs but a fraction of a cent to print and but a lick to apply, achieves a maximum of publicity circulation at a minimum of cost. The state chamber's idea should be taken up with enthusiasm and every one of the 6,750,000 stickers that are soon to be ready, should be given a chance to deliver its message.

And incidentally, the stickers will remind a good many people in Oregon of things they overlook or forget. If we all stick to sticking on these stickers that stick up for our own state, we shall get all stuck up as we count the points of Oregon's superiority.—Portland Telegram.

TO TELL THE WORLD ABOUT APPLES

Those writers of advertising who will be called upon to prepare copy for the national advertising of the apple are to be envied their assignment. There is so much to be said for the virtues of this fruit, there is so much interest and sentiment attached to the orchards producing it, that the temptation may be to run to poetry rather than to practical exposition.

Certainly it is much better to advertise the apple than to ask a tariff on bananas, as some of the banana interests and the citrus fruit growers have shown the way. The consumption of bananas has been immensely increased as a result of the national campaign begun about four years ago. Everybody knows that advertising has helped enormously the sale of oranges.

The true policy is to get the public to thinking more about apples. It is possible to increase the consumption of a commodity without necessarily reducing the consumption of a competitive commodity. When electrically equipped refrigerators came on the market and a big demand for them was created through extensive advertising, the producers and distributors of ice became alarmed. They countered with an advertising campaign. Whereas in 1920 the consumption of ice was 22 million tons, it was increased to 56 million tons in 1928.

So, the thing for the apple growers to do is to tell the world about their product, not in any small way, but in a big way, as becomes the leading American fruit. There is not much virtue in having an "apple day" once or twice a year; the thing to strive for is to make every day an apple day.—Kansas City Star.

Definition of a Christain

Sacraments are beautiful symbols. I should not want to remove them. They are sources of comfort and inspiration to a large number of people. Creeds are sometimes expressions of inward conviction. But neither the observance of sacraments nor beliefs in creeds are tests of one's Christianity.

Christianity goes far beyond. It is not expressed in formulas of faith, or in symbolism, but in a life. It is not even imitation of Jesus. He dressed in oriental style, was unmarried, had no settled place of abode, and at least for three years made no economic contribution to His own support.

Imitation in these respects makes no one a Christian. Jesus knew nothing of the problems that concern our complex life today. To imitate Him in His conduct is no solution of the problem. To be true Christians we must adapt the spirit of Jesus—His principles of action—to our altered situation.

Important as organized religion is, one cannot put a finger on this church and call it Christian, and on another and call it non-Christian. And because Christianity is a spirit, it may be found in a Protestant, a Jew, a Catholic, or a so-called heathen. If one could resurrect Socrates and set him in the midst of our life today, many would believe what the creeds have said about Him. He never asked men to understand Him in detail. No great man is fully understood. But here are crystal and radiant words which all can understand: "This is my commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you."

Jesus never insisted that men should believe what the creeds have said about Him. He never asked men to understand Him in detail. No great man is fully understood. But here are crystal and radiant words which all can understand: "This is my commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you."

It can be summed up in kindness. It is not a burden. It is a lift. It is not to be shouted from the housetops, but it can't be hid. It is felt, not only by the person who has it, but by those who pass his way. It is a "fusion of purpose, identity of spirit, comradeship."

—The Rev. F. K. Stuart in North American Review.

A dense private forest almost in the heart of San Francisco is the breeding ground for coyotes, which keep a paid hunter busy at the city's Golden Gate park to protect fowl.

"I telephoned we would be there at six"—

A COURTESY CALL

Many disappointments—and sometimes embarrassments—result from "just dropping in" on folks.

A telephone call is so quick and reassuring that most people think of it not only as a courtesy due others, but a real convenience to themselves — and it costs little.

Anyone, anywhere, any time from your own telephone, or from public telephones conveniently located everywhere.

Home Telephone & Telegraph Co.
Of Southern Oregon

A Real Brake Station

Icy and slippery pavements are always a menace to the automobile driver. More than 85 per cent of all accidents are caused from faulty brakes. To avoid these mishaps drive in today and let us test and adjust your brakes with our scientific brake testing machine.

NO CHARGE FOR TESTING

For Safety on the Road Use Firestone Gum-Dipped Tires,
the Best Non-Skid Tires on the Market

Older Tire Service Inc.
(Complete Car Service at One Stop)
Ninth and Riverside — Fone 520

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We Can Help You Solve Your

Drainage Problem

Modern machinery, competent engineers and skilled workmen will install a drainage system at surprisingly moderate cost. You are invited to inspect the drainage system we are now installing on Rosenberg Brother's Bear Creek Orchard.

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