

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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CAN'T THE PRIMARY LAW BE IMPROVED?

WE ARE in receipt of a letter from Portland, urging us to support another effort to secure a repeal of the Primary law, and replace it with a modified form of the old convention system.

INSTEAD of attempting the repeal of the Primary, we believe a better program would be to retain it, but supplement it with the adoption of a party convention system.

Let both parties hold conventions and select their candidates, then let the members of each party at the Primary endorse those tickets, or repudiate them; voting either for the convention selections, or any independents, that may have entered the Primary, subsequent to the convention action.

Some such plan, it seems to us, would retain the advantages of both the convention and primary systems, and tend to eliminate both their dangers and disadvantages.

With such a program, any return to the "boss" system would be impossible; and at the same time, the advantages of more intelligent selection, and real party responsibility, would be retained.

WE DON'T agree with those who maintain there is something sacrosanct about the direct primary, that because it was adopted as the result of a political revolt, a quarter of a century ago, no attempt should be made to improve it, or render it more efficient or responsive to present needs.

What we all want is better government, which chiefly depends upon better men in public office. The direct primary was designed primarily to destroy the boss-ridden convention system. That has been done. But with the destruction of the boss-ridden convention system, went certain obvious advantages, which a properly constituted party convention possesses.

Why not try to utilize the advantages of both systems? Certainly in the present state of the body politic we need all the mechanical aids to good government that human ingenuity can devise.

PARDON OUR BLUSHES!

WE ARE somewhat embarrassed by the reaction to our recent query, "Are Mail-Tribune editorials top wide?"

Apparently this query was generally construed as an effort to get a few bouquets thrown in our direction.

We appreciate the compliments for this column that have come in by letter, phone, and word of mouth,—such evidences of good will are highly gratifying.

But honestly this was not our purpose. Editor Callvert of the Oregonian, at a state press conference, maintained the two-column 10-point line of our editorials was too wide, tired the eye, and if shortened, would provide a much more effective medium.

The suggestion was a new one to us. We could think of no better way of testing the matter than to ask the opinions of our readers.

Thus far there have been but two replies dealing with the matter of typographical construction. The first suggested a three-column layout, with lines of a column and one-half width; the second favored the present makeup.

Perhaps the matter is too technical—to exclusively a newspaper concern—to interest many people. We have about decided the best method will be to change the typographical arrangement, for a few days, and see what the reaction is—if any.

No doubt in this, as in other things, Don Quixote's dietum holds good: "The proof of the pudding is the eating."

Wife: An audience bored by a vocal ego.

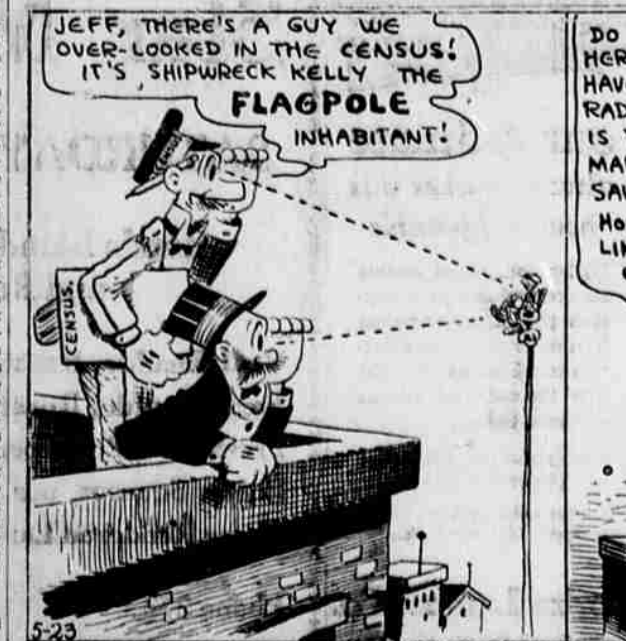
Every time a foreign country thinks up a new doctrine it includes forgetting the money owed to Uncle Sam.

The little problems are hardest to solve. Faith will move mountains but it won't grow hair.

"Her extended hand broke his resolution," says a novelist. And his bumper too, unless he guessed what she meant by it.

Queer man! Place him where he has no installment payments, no taxes, no loss on stocks, and he still saws the bars to get out.

MUTT AND JEFF—The Census Loses an Enumerator



Quill Points

Perfectly: An American prefix. See perfectly awful and perfectly grand.

The chief fault in these controversial times is the disposition to forget the other Ten Commandments.

Gliders that stay up without power should be popular in a land where fame is supported by publicity.



Convalescence is that period during which you become aware of the nurse's charms, if any.

Alas! If he has made any decisions, he has displeased somebody; and if he has been neutral all his life, he couldn't handle a supreme court job.

A cabinet member formerly aligned against prohibition! Now how in the world did that man get confirmed?

Why is it wicked to spend \$250,000 for a Senate nomination? The folly of buying a fine car depends on the nick it makes in your bank roll.

Americanism: A broad highway leading to Easy Street detours leading to a sanitarium, a place to dump friends and a jail for neglected youngsters.

You can't always elect perfect men to office, but you can at least select the candidate who can't make a Fourth of July oration.

In some ways the world gets worse, but hick-town people without children no longer build enormous houses to impress the neighbors.



The most effective "eye opener" for regular use is a two-year-old early riser who thinks your stomach is a horse.

Pups tear up a shoe for the fun of it—not because they mean any harm. They are like Senators with a new treaty.

America can impose her will on other nations at a conference. The hard part is to impose it on America.

There are just two kinds of men—those who own a little property, and those who are owned by big property.

The American abroad may drink fine wines, but how he longs at lunch time for his own national delicacies—a peanut butter sandwich and chocolate syrup.

Correct this sentence: "Yes, I have a diseased gall sac," said she, "but many times I can't think of anything to talk about."

Poppy Thoughts

As each completed poppy leaves the hands of a disabled man it means one more penny for the necessities and comforts not supplied by the hospitals, one more penny added to the little store for the veteran's use when he goes from the hospital to face the battle of winning back a place in the economic life of the country, or one more penny to buy food, fuel and clothing for his family at home.

The men are eager to help themselves through earning money rather than to depend on charitable donations.

Only as many poppies can be made as are ordered by auxiliary units. It is a happy day in a hospital or workshop when a large order for poppies is received.

Good Will Cruise PORTLAND, Ore., May 23.—(AP)—An informal "good will" cruise to cities of the upper Columbia and Snake rivers and a study of navigation possibilities of these rivers will be the mission of a dozen Portlanders who this morning left the Portland harbor in three motorboat cruisers.

Classified advertising gets results.

Personal Health Service

By William Brady, M. D.

Signed letters pertaining to personal health and hygiene, not to disease, diagnosis or treatment will be answered by Dr. Brady if a stamped self-addressed envelope is enclosed. Letters should be brief and written in ink. Owing to the large number of letters received only a few can be answered here. No reply can be made to queries not conforming to instructions. Address Dr. William Brady in care of The Mail Tribune.

ARBITRARY DOES IT IN THIS HEALTH EDUCATION BUSINESS.

A medical friend tells me I am doing myself and my work a great injustice by harping on the most question of "lowered resistance." He, of course, does not agree with, well, let us call it the "Barracuda" and other pseudo-scientists on this question; but why go to the opposite extreme, if any.

My friend fears I forget at times that I have a great responsibility, inasmuch as I address the medically speaking, unlearned and unstable, so why furnish them something that they may wrest to their own destruction? This question of what general conditions may conduce to local infection is a big one with many ramifications; consequently, poor pooling one phase of the question, is not constructive, and my friend knows I wish to be constructive and healthful, hence he beseeches me to pipe down on that line.

My friend's criticism recalls the answer a distinguished teacher of therapeutics made to my contention that his textbook—a standard in medical colleges—was inconsistent in teaching that alcohol is depressant to nervous system and circulation yet retaining the antiquated notion that it is a good emergency remedy in shock, fainting, snakebite and the like. The professor replied that it was conceivable that alcohol acts as a stimulant upon other functions of which we know, as yet, very little, as for example the ability of the body to resist infection.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Girls Should Play Ball

Lady writes on state health de-

MAIL TRIBUNE DAILY CROSS-WORD PUZZLE

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

Grid for the crossword puzzle with numbers 1-35.

partment stationery that she is giving health talks to a class of high school girls, by request of the faculty. Many of the girls want to play basketball and their mothers frequently object on the ground that a girl is too delicate to engage in athletics.

What that might have to do with shock, fainting, heart failure or snakebite the learned professor did not explain. But how illogical to teach that the drug depresses the circulation, so it is the thing to give when the circulation is depressed, because, for all we know, it may have some favorable action in some way man wots not of.

Now, with all due deference to the kind intention and the sincere belief of my medical friend I testify I never forget the responsibility that rests on me as a teacher of health to the public; I have frequently explained here as clearly as possible that we know very little about the conditions that build up or break down immunity. Since we do not know that this or that factor makes one more or less susceptible to a given disease or group of diseases, I maintain we have no moral right to pretend we do know or to disseminate rules or advice based on nothing better than fancy, theory or old traditions.

So until someone succeeds in showing that a wetting of the feet or a sudden change of clothing or air or weather actually does have some ill effect on immunity I shall continue to pooh-poo and puncture the pretense of every authority who ventures to intimate that those little everyday trifles of life "lower resistance." Before they undertake to raise or lower resistance they've got to show me that there is any such state or influence as "resistance," apart from specific immunity as science recognizes it.

Disilled Water

Years ago I read that some authority advised that people should drink only distilled water.

Answer.—There is no good authority for thinking so now.

Communications

Regarding Pennsylvania

To the Editor: Pennsylvania, in your editorial in Wednesday's Mail Tribune, is described as overwhelmingly wet!

In Tuesday's primary, Brown for governor and Secretary of Labor James Davis for senator, had the support of Varels on a platform or referendum on the wet and dry issue. If later reports confirm the nomination of Clifford Fincher on a platform of strict enforcement, that does not appear so very wet. Jimmy Davis has a large popular following and could no doubt have won over Grundy, the latter's first political campaign, on any issue.

Phillips, wealthy oil man and former congressman, apparently polled fewer votes on this attempt for gubernatorial honors on a wet platform than he did four years ago. The present governor, Fisher, uncompromisingly dry, received the largest vote ever given a governor-elect in the Keystone state.

"Overwhelmingly wet" is an appellation fitly describing only such states as Connecticut, Rhode Island and others which failed to ratify, or later repealed their current legislation, as New York, Wisconsin, Illinois. No serious attempt toward this end has been made in Pennsylvania.

The sophistry of the alluring appeal of "national referendum" on prohibition lies in the fact that although the constitution itself provides a means by which its provisions may be changed, the wets, unable to affect a change, want to change the Constitution itself.

Fortunately, in a government by states, Oregon has as much power as the largest states. Conversely, on a basis of national referendum, which once established, would apply to any and all national questions, a wets would have many times the influence of the smaller states.

J. I. S., R. F. D. 4. (Name on file)

Mail Tribune ads are read by 20,000 people every day.

ADVISE ONE

BIG PINES LUMBER CO.

GENUINE PINE REEF MILL

FOR BURNING & SHEDS

Do You Remember?

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY (From files of the Mail Tribune.) May 23, 1920

General Wood carries Jackson county, while Johnson carries the state. Ben Sheldon and E. V. Carter elected to legislature. Good roads bonds win easily.

Medford forgers caught in Colorado.

C. of C. dicata forest protection at forum, with Judge Crews with gavel.

Seven injured when interurban auto hits phone pole at Ashland.

E. W. Carleton calls meeting of Fruitgrowers' league to discuss war on pests.

Court Hall given "puff" in Portland papers for gifts of valley apples.

First local grown strawberries offered by Marsh's at 25 cents a box.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY (From files of the Mail Tribune.) May 23, 1910

Five new buildings under way at Prospect.

Judge E. E. Kelly in argument over trout in Lake creek, declares there "are three great bars—and two of them are Mosé Barkdull." Mose led a party of fishermen on a wild goose chase as a practical joke.

First "aeroplane" ever to be shown in southern Oregon arrives by express in three huge boxes. Paul Ely is the "man-bird" who will fly it.

Southwest Medford is annexed by a vote of 78 to 1 at a special election.

SUNDOWN STORIES



THE IMP

By Mary Graham Bonner

"We're going to see an imp tonight," said the Little Black Clock. "That's right," said John. He felt he would like to see an imp very much indeed.

Sometimes I's daddy called him an imp, and Peggy was pleased, too, for sometimes he called her an imp.

They thought they would like to see an imp, very much. "I've turned the time back a few hundred years or so," the Little Black Clock said.

"A mere nothing," laughed John. The children didn't quite see why the Little Black Clock had to turn the time back to see an imp. Perhaps there were better imps in those days. Yes, the children thought, that was probably the reason why the Little Black Clock was turning the time back.

But as the scene changed and the children waited they did not see anyone or anything looking like an imp.

They turned and looked at the Little Black Clock.

He looked as though he were trying to keep from laughing. Evidently he could see the imp coming from a distance.

But no one appeared. What could the Little Black Clock mean?

Now he was laughing very hard.

"You must forgive me," he said. "It's sometimes I, too, like to play a little joke. That they shoot from the big tree, yes, the little one, is the imp. In the olden days—the days to which I've now turned the time—that was what anyone meant when they said IMP."

J. I. S., R. F. D. 4. (Name on file)

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GENUINE PINE REEF MILL

FOR BURNING & SHEDS

ADVISE ONE

Women's Hose

\$1.00 pair

Silk from top to toe with French Heel



The Grocery

OF COMMERCE

BY BUD FISHER

