

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW MAYOR

NOW that the recount is over, we take this opportunity to present our somewhat belated congratulations to our new Mayor, Mr. E. M. Wilson.

During the campaign Mr. Wilson conducted himself with dignity, good temper and good taste. Those qualities that made him a "weak candidate," will in all likelihood, make him a strong Mayor.

WE PREDICT that the better the people of Medford know Mayor Wilson the better they will like him. There is nothing spectacular or showy about him—nothing—probably not enough—of the politician about him.

But he is absolutely dependable, capable, deeply devoted to what he regards as best for the welfare of the people of this city, and with the courage to take a firm stand on anything he believes to be right.

So we congratulate the new Mayor and extend the same pledge of assistance and support that we have extended to other Mayors in the past (and would have extended Mr. Wilson's opponent had he been successful.)

"We will be with you when we believe you are right; and against you when we believe you wrong, and the sole test of right and wrong will be what we regard as best for the city of Medford."

THE KLAMATH MURDER CASE

DONALD NACKER, who murdered Fred Dunbar at Summit Lake last Labor Day, tells the jury in his defense that he "isn't very smart."

Well, he was smart enough to shoot a defenseless man down in cold blood, bind up and terrify his girl companion; and he is now smart enough to ask for an acquittal on the ground he is insane.

Smart enough, we should say, to justify putting Nacker where he will be unable to repeat such a performance.

BUT that, unfortunately, isn't the way the plea of insanity usually works. If the Klamath jury in this case decides the defendant is crazy, he will be acquitted, sent to an insane asylum and in a few years be judged sane, released and allowed to roam at large again.

At least that was the experience of Harry Thaw, and only lack of funds has prevented it from being the experience of countless other homicidal maniacs.

SUCH a situation merely calls attention once more to the absurdity and the perversion of this insanity plea, as practiced in American courts.

And all that is needed to correct this abuse, as with most of the other legal abuses from which this country suffers, is the application of a little common sense.

No one denies this lad Nacker is a murderer and a particularly dangerous and heartless one. The purpose of all law is to protect society from such men. Insanity is no more a valid defense than the color of the defendant's hair or his religion. In fact, an insane murderer is more dangerous to society than a sane one; for the latter at least will not shoot and kill without some reason; the former may start on a shooting spree at any time.

IF THE jury decides Nacker is insane, then that fact should end the matter. He should be locked up in an ASYLUM FOR LIFE. If at any subsequent time he should ask for his freedom on the ground he has recovered his insanity, and secure it, then he should receive the punishment he escaped, because of his insanity plea.

That is the common sense way of treating such criminals and, as we see it, the only way to prevent the insanity plea, making a farce and scandal of criminal justice in this country.

THE LAST STAND OF KINGS

IF THE present revolution in Spain doesn't end the monarchy, another one will. A kingless Europe in another decade is as certain as anything still in the future can be.

The Balkan thrones are plainly tottering, the royal family in Greece have their yacht with steam up ready to depart at any time. By 1940 there won't be a crowned head, set firmly on human shoulders, except perhaps in parts of darkest Africa, Italy and Great Britain.

The royal houses in England and Italy promise to endure, because in England the King long ago abandoned resisting Democracy and decided to co-operate with it; and in Italy, the King bowed to the will of the people instead of fighting it.

But in Spain and the Balkans the ideas of absolute monarchy have not been so readily abandoned. As a result the royal obstructionists will be brushed aside, perhaps without bloodshed, but more likely with it.

The railroads needn't worry about losing more business. There is only so much space on the highways.

The worst of it is, so many commission reports may yet require the building of new pigeon holes.

Everything is speeding up. In the old days it took a man lots longer to drink himself to death.

A bad taste in the mouth may indicate indigestion, or you may have been reading a best seller.

We can't let many more men get famous. Newspapers have just so much space for daily obituaries.

The man who first called it "easy money" must be the same fellow who invented "easy payments."

The advantage in learning bridge from an expert is that he doesn't kick you on the shins.

Never despair. Think how long this country has flourished in spite of all Congress could do.

Fifteen Years Ago This Week

(From the files of The Mail Tribune)

Monday Local Adventists protest adoption of Sunday-closing laws in Oregon, which would prohibit even driving an auto.

Registration for city election next month starts. The Drama League induces Forbes-Robertson, noted actor to appear here in "The Third Floor Back."

County taxpayers organize Taxpayers' league to study taxation. Another smash-up between a horse and wagon, and an auto occurred on the Pacific highway Saturday night. The wagon was smashed to "smithereens."

Tuesday Survey shows only two tractors are in use on farms and orchards of valley. Rev. William B. Hamilton is reported as recovering from a severe case of pneumonia. Coyotes more numerous and annoying than for years in the Ruch district.

John Doe and Richard Roe, both of Talent are charged with reckless-driving of an automobile, resulting in smashing up a wagon belonging to Frank Schuetz. It was a Corbin automobile. Bulgaria threatens to invade Greece.

Wednesday The sugar beet factory, for which the city has been struggling the past year, will be located at Grants Pass. Alex Nibley of Salt Lake City, said today. License issued for the wedding of President Wilson to Mrs. Edith Galt.

County officials go to Salem to confer on the enforcement of the new prohibition which goes into effect January 1, after which the state will be bone-dry. The films failed to arrive, and there was no show at the Star last night.

Mike Hanley nets \$700 from his Bose trees on the Little Butte. Thursday Lack of irrigation costs the valley \$50,000,000 every year. Walter Larned Chicago buys interest in Hoke smelter.

The president is added to Mrs. Edith Galt, at Washington, D. C. Local laundry man driver is fined \$1.00 for failure to stop when the Main street crossing watchman waved his red lantern. A catastrophe was narrowly averted.

Attorney general rules that under the Oregon prohibition law, a farmer with hard cider in his possession is guilty of an infraction. Friday The Astor Wine company announces that it will open a liquor warehouse at Hornbrook, Calif., in January, and will be prepared to serve all orders, and will be happy to greet customers in person.

Villa signs peace treaty, and Mexican war ends. One hundred thousand dollars asked for federal work in Crater Lake park. Citizen of Butte Falls arrested and charged with nearly biting off the nose of his foe during a spirited combat.

Saturday Forty taxpayers meet and elect Dr. J. M. Keene, temporary chairman, and E. M. Wilson, temporary secretary.

Theodore Roosevelt calls President Wilson a "Byzantine logothete," arousing the Democrats of the nation and Jackson county. Kaiser plans gigantic drives to end the war.

Sportmen fail to endorse bill, which they proposed, to close the Rogue. Hall Taxi company starts booking visitors to Crater Lake next summer. "Buy a Maxwell auto. It will pay for itself."—Ad. Neckties stolen from "Daniels for Duds" found in saloon at Hornbrook.

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Press Comment

There are few parents in this world who are not daily made aware of an exceedingly happy and care-free group that is known as "all the other children."

In there a magician giving performances in town? Is there a thrilling animal picture on the screen? It is safe to assert that all the other children will be going. In fact, the lives of all the other children are just one thing after another.

All the other children play miniature golf on Saturday. All the other children have wonderful birthday parties. All the other children never think about going to bed before 10 o'clock at night. All the other children go without hats and frequently without sweaters, even when the days are cold, and they do not have to get home by dark.

The parents of all the other children are always at their children's disposal. They simply love to play games in the evening, and they are forever driving out in the motor car to some place where ice cream cones may be had. All the other children spend as much as they like on lunch. They also carry their books to school in leather brief cases with their initials in gold.

However, it appears that all the other children are not entirely perfect. When, for example, there is a test in arithmetic, all the other

children do very poorly on it and they are not at all good in French and do not take their physical exercises seriously. It is distressing to many parents who bring children into the world to discover that they are harsh, Puritanical, Spartan taskmasters as contrasted with the liberal, easy going, laughter-loving parents of all the other children. So distressing, in fact, that they are often constrained against their better judgment to let down their standards in order to permit their children to feel what it is to be like all other children.—Baltimore Sun.)

Just Around the Corner We feel it's only our duty as an automotive maintenance man, to remind you that Winter, with its snow and ice, is just "around the corner."

Your car, as you know, needs special attention now. The cooling system should be made leak proof, anti-freeze installed, the oil changed, the battery fully charged, and the engine tuned up.

We're prepared to do all these things at reasonable cost. Now is a good time to see us.

Pierce-Allen Motor Co. 112 South Riverside

BOCHUM, Germany, Dec. 13.—(AP) The Persiar, government has hired two local mining experts at \$15,000 a year each, to reorganize and modernize the mines of Persia. A Horton, Kas., newspaper in cludes separate columns for democratic and republican news.

The DENISON RADIO SHOP Is the place to buy your 1931 BRUNSWICK RADIO The Radio of the Future. The good name of Brunswick, symbol of a great music house of many years' standing, plus our name as Brunswick's authorized dealer, is your guarantee of satisfaction in radio. ITS COMPANION PIECE IS THE BRUNSWICK HIGHBOY. MODEL 22. AND FOR RADIO PLUS RECORDS YOU HAVE THE RADIO-WITH-PANATROPE MODEL 31. Prices, less tubes \$158, \$189, \$206.

Dime Club Now Forming... JOIN NOW! This Year... Give a Year's Subscription to the MAIL TRIBUNE The Gift That Lasts 365 Days in the Year! Medford National Bank

Smudge Smoke

The south wind whined a symphony among the pines and the phone poles 171 am.

A report was received Thurs. from a hill-billy that Jim Dinkons of Beagle was sporting a Van Dyke beard.

Fr. W. G. Hamilton shook hands with H. Flewther, the demon baker on the 13th and both were all smiles.

A local sensation collapsed like a paper sack full of sour milk last week.

Bm. Vayter Jr. will soon be big enough to drive an auto better than his father.

Rain fell several times the past week with old-time gusto.

The Hill lines are coming, according to report, and several likely depot sites are under consideration.

Rogue river is still running along towards the ocean with hardly enough water to keep the sacred fish wet.

Money is reported scarce around here and to the layman it seems to be just as scarce—no more, no less—than usual.

The ranks of the hatless have been augmented by John Neidermyer. He is a U. of C. graduate and should know better.

A fresh breeze from the south, or a carelessly driven 4d knocked out one of the Main Stem Yule trees Fri.

The writer who has been dogging a cold since October, did not duck quick enough Wed.

Lee Carpenter has skinned out for Frisco and environs, where he will conduct some extensive and scientific logging.

Our schoolmarm does not appear as mad as usual, as Christmas is approaching.

Several local citizens have been up to Portland, where they reluctantly consented to the use of their names in the Oregonian. The big town scribes writing interviews from them. They always sound the same. A law should be passed declaring a closed season on mentioning the water supply in the metropolis until 1931. The Rose City thinks they have a fair water supply.

There has been a great decline in local cussedness and scalliwags of late.

Aspersions were cast on those parts last week, by a New Yorker who wrote that he hit a Rogue River turkey November 27 and in a long and busy life had never come in contact with anything any tougher.

F. Preston of the Apogie was in town the past wk.

Aaron Schollars called during the week-end and recounted his acquaintance with a Kansas cyclone, which chased him across a plowed field and got into the cellar before he did.

Eme Mohr Sr. is acting like he was going to So. Calif. if he could find a good excuse.

W. A. Gates and A. S. Rosenbaum engaged in light repartee Tues. evng. on the merits and demerits of the esteemed Espee. Mr. Gates taking the negative side of the question. He was not very convincing to anybody except himself. Mr. Rosenbaum closed the debate by executing a clever feat of magic on the ex-Peorian.

C. Wig Ashpole is packing in his own wood this winter, he says.

Contemptuous innuendo has been hurled at the Main Stem light poles, and it was about time.

OREGON LAWMAKERS PLAN COMING SESSION (Continued on Page 6, Story 1)

Legislators electing Senator J. O. Bailey chairman and Representative Dorothy M. Lee secretary. Mrs. Lee received the unanimous support. She will be the only woman member in the legislature this year. Senator Bailey was elected by members of the house from Multnomah county over Senator Isaac E. Staples, preferred by a majority of the senate members.

The group will meet again later this month to hear matters for legislative action brought up by Multnomah county constituents.

Other counties will organize during the present month, chief among them being Marion county, whose members will go into a huddle the last week of December to outline a program for the county and state as well. Plans for the inauguration ceremonies are in progress in Salem, while a number of office holders are wondering what is going to happen when Mr. Meier takes over the office of governor. Several important offices are to be filled at the pleasure of the new executive.