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Digesting... The News

By CLIFFORD C. MITCHELL

The Advocate does not necessarily share in the writer's views, but whether we do or not, the opinions are sane, logical and interesting. It is the readers' as well as our privilege to disagree with the writer who invites your opinion upon the subjects discussed from time to time in this column.

With the passing of the Seventy-first Congress the Negro finds himself in the most strategic political position ever recorded in American history. Those who view their politics only by the political jobs that they or their ilk can control will at once dispute the aforementioned statement. Viewed entirely from the point of opportunity to achieve and become independent, there is no question or argument that will dispute the actual facts.

Just glance over the personnel of the Seventy-second Congress. In both houses the two dominating major parties are battling for control. The independent and liberal policies and thought of some of the members do not add to the strength of either party even on strictly party issues. Millions of unemployed men and women are a constant threat and menace to the party in power.

No party can well afford to offend or to tolerate offenses against any American group on account of religion, color or caste. The group that is in position to demand, not beg, for their rights will be recognized.

Fortunately, we have a friend at court. Our representative from the First congressional district of Illinois finds himself in a position of absolute independence. He will not have to seek opportunities. He will be sought after. Elected on the Republican ticket from a Republican district, his lieutenants will see that his district remains Republican, thus adding permanency to his tenure of office. He will remain a loyal and staunch partisan to his constituents. In things national he can and should be independent, in thought and in action, thus increasing the power of his vote.

From his seat of vantage he can inspire, advise and direct our local political leaders throughout the country. He will be practical and realize that conditions differ, geographically, and that party sentiment is not near so valuable as party control. Above all, he should advise our people the path not to follow, in their efforts to take advantage of an opportunity to create a minority balance of power.

Yes, the opportunity for political independency is at hand. Through no maneuvering of his own, the vote of our lone representative will be more powerful and more sought after than the combined votes of all our past representatives.

The old proverb of the ship and the sea is worn out. What we need to seek is a ship that will land us somewhere, not one that will keep us in the sea and unless this writer mistakes the signs, the ship builders will be at our door and the choice will be ours.

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New Times, New Methods



MRS. MARGARET HYATT
At the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893, Mrs. Hyatt won recognition for her expertness as a telephone operator. Times have changed since then, and with them, methods and equipment. Here Mrs. Hyatt is shown operating a modern telephone switchboard in Los Angeles, whither she went last fall to attend a meeting of the Telephone Pioneers of America.

\$500,000 RECREATION CENTER SOLD
New York, Feb. 25.—(CNS)—The \$500,000 Lincoln Recreation Center of Harlem has been sold as a result of really foreclosure actions. The center brought \$335,000—\$135,000 more than the mortgage on it. The place was opened May of last year.

Urban League Reports \$10,000 Gift at Annual Meeting
New York, Feb. 25.—(CNS)—A gift of \$10,000 from Mrs. G. B. Seligman, as a special fund in memory of her husband, the late George W. Seligman, former board member, was received by the National Urban League at the annual meeting held here last week. Mrs. Seligman was elected a member of the board for the term expiring in 1934.

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Arrow Tips

KITS RIED

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The Legislature of this wonderful state of Oregon which has just closed its labors has been one of the saddest jokes perpetrated on the sorrowing electorate that elected it that is within our recollection. And we have been a member of the third house through several sessions. Some of the members had the temerity to get up on the floor and spout about "obeying the mandate of the people" and then in their next vote deliberately repeat the offense by disobeying the mandate of their intelligence. But I wrong them. I am insulting the word "intelligence." I noticed none of it lying around loose in the legislative halls. I did see prejudice, spite, greed and egotism flaunting their red and yellow banners, but I saw none of the white, bright flutters of the banners of intelligence. Such a lot of dubs I never saw together in one assembly before. I still believe that Oregon would grow faster, better and bigger if we had but one session every four years.

I've met many politicians in my time, but the most contemptible of all the breed is the labor politician. Tom Mooney's latest pamphlet, written from his cell in San Quentin, exposes the real culprits behind the forces that are keeping him in prison. The rank and file of labor can be trusted, but not their political leaders. We have some of the same ilk in Oregon and organized labor can make but little progress until they are cleaned out. They have sold their souls for political preferment and not only their own birthright but those of their fellow workmen for the mess of pottage which they do not share with their comrades. And to think that one of the "leaders" here has just been elected for four years! However, as long as the working men and women allow themselves to be humbugged by such leaders, just so long will their cause of right and justice be delayed.

We had the astonishing spectacle of this "labor leader" being elected to office on a salary of \$250 a month and then worrying the life out of the legislators for an increase to \$300 a month. I noticed four different bills in which his salary increase was rather prominent. I wonder how long labor will indorse that kind of exploitation, or when they will wake up to his financial antics at their expense?

In one of the journals that comes to my desk I read the following on "The Faith of a Jew," by Edmond Pleg: "I am a Jew because the faith of Israel demands no abdication of my mind." Compare that assertion with the "band wagon" minds of many of us Gentiles. I have been listening in on the radio talks of the pope. I don't understand Latin, but some of my lawyer friends do and some of it has been translated for me. Ah, me! I dislike to be forced to believe that we must still be governed by superstitious fear and reactionary doctrines. While the world is filled with hearts and minds waiting to be stirred by spiritual truths that at the same time will unlock the hungry intelligence, it is somewhat discouraging to be fed on ecclerical dogma.

Well, we are at least thankful that the gang outside the prison at Salem set aside money enough to make some improvements for the gang inside the prison, in appropriating money enough to put in a sprinkling system and to make a few other improvements. It looks quite hopeful too, that Governor Meier intends to put a "ventilating" system into the flax industry. It is certainly needed. I am told that Colonel Bartram is not even a citizen of this country, but he has been drawing down \$500 a month of citizens' funds. From other things I hear, the spotlight needs to be turned on Superintendent Myers also. Go to it, governor, everyone admires your nerve.

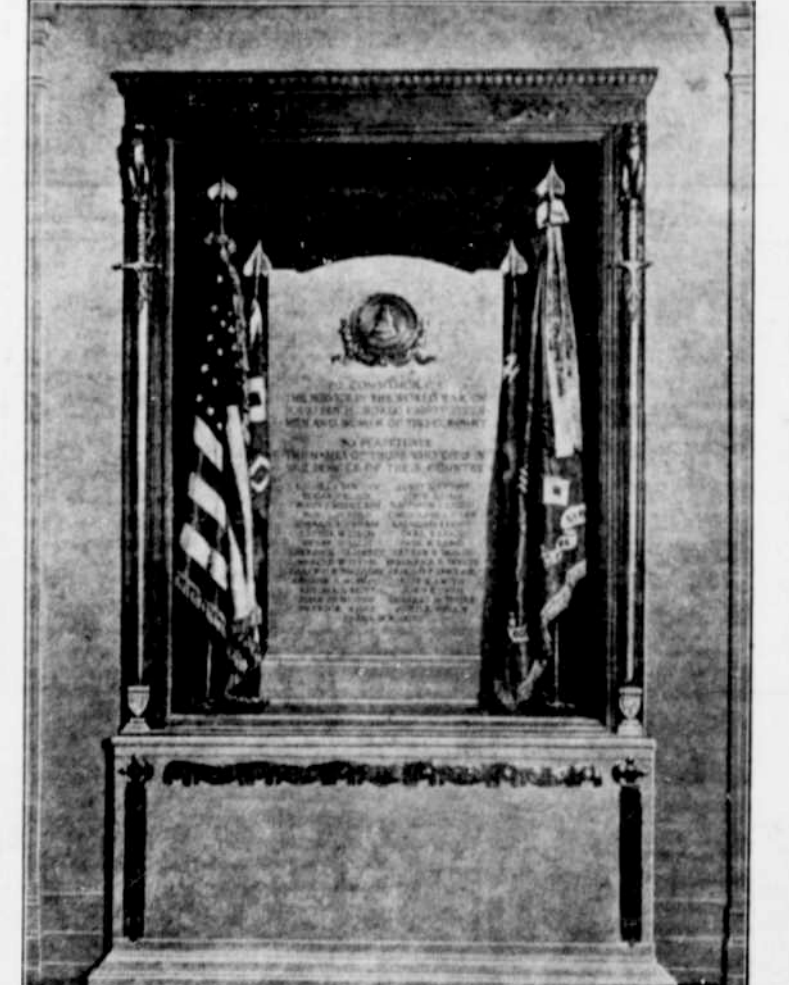
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War Memorial Placed in Boston Telephone Building



Installed "to commemorate the service in the World War of fourteen hundred eighty-seven men and women of this company" and "to perpetuate the names of those who died in the service of their country," this memorial tablet has recently been unveiled by the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company in its headquarters building in Boston. The list of those who gave their lives includes 29 names.

THEM DAYS ARE GONE FOREVER Ameliorate This on Your Alto.

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