The Evening Herald

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SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1929

Secrecy Doesn't Win

THIS controversy in Washington D. C. revolving around the publication of the Senate's secret vote on the Lenroot confirmation brings up the question of whether or not the official acts of public servants—and that, in effect, is what every senator is; at least that's what he says he is during campaign days— can be withheld from their constituents.

We hold the public was entitled to know the Lenroot vote; that list of ayes and nayes is actual public property and, except in emergency cases, should not be withheld. Suppose the senate were the board of directors of a corporation, would the stockholders of that company be barred from information which was important to their investment. Hardly. Why then, should the stockholders in the corporation of the United States be refused information concerning the actions of their board of directors, the United States senate.

As a matter of fact, this tendency towards "executive" sessions should be discouraged. We have noticed that official and civic bodies of Klamath often slip behind the comfortable cloak of secrecy when serious questions arise.

Executive meetings are not fair to the public, nor are they fair to the persons who meet secretly. It is a strange paradox of the American people, that however embarrassing the circumstances or however condemning the facts, one gets a fairer deal all around from the public if the actual truth is published throughout the land. The American citizen is a curious person. He possesses infinite curiousity and a marvelous imagination which, when facts are lacking to fill out the picture, can conceive most amazing falsehoods. But let the facts be published and the public straightway either loses interest or manifests a tendency to help and sympathize with the man under fire.

It is our advice to all public officials, big and small, that nothing will be gained in the end by withholding information from the public. Such acts are merely sowing the seeds of suspicion among an active and interested constituency.

D. J. Good

A FORMER business man of Klamath Falls, one who took an active interest in civic and church affairs and who, at one time in the east, was a minister, faces a long term in the state penitentiary. He is D. J. Good alias E. J. Goodrich who yesterday pleaded guilty to the charge of bigamy and was sentenced to serve not more than four years in prison.

One should find it in their heart to feel sorry for this person and yet, on second thought, we are inclined to feel more compassion for the misguided transient whose crimes are the result of a life which lacked Christian counsel and parental discipline.

Good was fully cognizant of his mis-steps. As a former minister, as a business man and as a person who kept in touch with public affairs, he was quite aware of the risks and the consequences of his act. He knew—his statements to the contrary notwithstanding—that the divorce from his first wife obtained in Medford was not worth the paper it was written on. He posed as a God fearing, upright, strong minded Christian gentleman, and, for a time got away with it. He was, in short, acting the part of the hypocrite, using the church as a cloak for his infamy.

Good deserves to go to the penitentiary. He deserves it far more than the ignorant petty thief and his like. He had a greater opportunity than most men to distinguish right from wrong and for that reason his guilt is the blacker.

We trust that long years in the state penitentiary will re-make the man; that he will emerge from that corrective institution purged of the traits which led to his present trouble.

EDITORIALS
From Over the Nation

ITALY'S BEARS

Baltimore Sun: Three members of the Italian Bourse are to serve terms in jail and pay huge fines for the crime of selling short on government bonds and attempting to depress them by the spreading of rumors tending to impair Fascist credit. What the rumors were dispatches do not implicitly state, but it is doubtful if they were any more "bearish" than the charges which Former Premier Nitti has made in an article published in a Paris newspaper. Fortunately for Signor Nitti, he is out of reach of Mussolini's police, and, fortunately for Italian speculators in the nation's bonds, they will never see the Nitti article.

According to Nitti, there are now more business failures in Italy than in any other country in the world, 800,000 people are out of work and the government is facing a serious financial collapse. Supporters of the Fascist regime will take heart because Signor Nitti has said the same thing before, at least in substance. But he is probably right in believing that the present government of Italy is spending a great deal of money on espionage, propaganda and other activities the purpose of which is not so much to build up Italy as to keep the Fascists in power. Instead, one of the most bearish items about Italy yet to appear is the news that it is necessary to jail the brokers in order to keep them from saying what they think of government securities.

QUILLEN'S QUIPS AND QUIRKS OF AMERICA

Pointed Satire Intermingled With Broad Humor Gives Conception of the Best and Worst Sides.

By ROBERT QUILLEN

Teaching the heathen to wear clothes isn't so difficult. They never see any magazine advertisements.

Now why not sentence people for life as "habituals" when they marry the fourth time?

All we need to please both sides is a beverage that isn't intoxicating and yet will deliver a satisfactory kick.

City life has advantages. In a hick town, somebody you owe always passes by while you're having the tank filled.

Doctors rather like charity practice. 'It's a pleasure to treat an occasional patient who really has something the matter with him.

You can tell when you are approaching a center of culture. You begin to step on chewing gum instead of grass.

The box office doesn't know that people think of the talkies. People go to Florida for the climate despite the bugs.

"Realism" in literature: Devoting one paragraph to the bath room fixtures and two pages to the ring in the bath tub.

Americanism: A judge fining six black boys for gambling while his wife is winning the bridge prize.

Some Senators must be persuaded by the President, and some buy their own breakfasts.

"Many divorces are due to the fact that people see too much of one another." Still, one must dress in style.

Hell, for some people, will be a place where everybody else drives a five-ton truck.

Apparently our fathers made their first great mistake by not leaving the definition of sin to the legislature instead of the dictionary.

It might help some to talk about the "glory" of walking and provide wound stripes for pedestrians.

Blessed are the poor. They don't know any better than to sleep with the windows down.

In every town the sinful are denounced by at least one prominent citizen who hasn't a single bad habit except stealing.

The songster who promised every day would be Sunday bye and bye may have meant it would seem that way on the highways.

We are a sorry lot, and half what people think of the talkies, **sort consists in the knowledge that folks back home are cold.**

Correct this sentence: "I saw him in pajamas," said the reporter, "but still he seemed majestic."

Flag of Truce Raised Friday In Sex Fight

URBANA, Ill., May 25, (UP)—Under a temporary truce, more than 400 high school students who left their class rooms Thursday and paraded through the city in protest against the resignation of M. L. Flaningam, superintendent of schools, agreed to return to school Friday pending settlement of a faculty sex controversy.

Flaningam tendered his resignation after seven school teachers had filed a complaint with the school board charging the superintendent had discussed sex matters "too freely" with them.

The truce was effected at a student indignation meeting which was addressed by F. E. Williamson of the school board. He persuaded the students to return to their studies pending a mass meeting of parents next Monday night at which the resignation of Flaningam will be discussed.

STOP FIRES ON INDIAN'S LAND

(Continued from Page One)

came from the brush being burned.

Thursday Mt. Calimus reported a fire in the direction of 267 degrees and 15 minutes. L. O. Wright of Mt. Scott got the range at 135 degrees and 40 minutes.

Space drew the required lines on his map and where they intersected he judged the fire to be raging. Again the boys hit the nail exactly on the head, locating the blaze at once.

It was burning near the Buck Williams' place. The nearest fire guards were phoned and they soon appeared on the scene and put the fire out in no time.

Since it happened in an area where there is no available timber, the only damage done was to burn up Alex Davis' cowpuncher's bed outfit and spare clothing, leaving him at the mercy of the spring winds.

He had started the fire to cook his dinner over. Leaving it but a few minutes a sudden gust of wind came up and scattered the flames. But the quick work of the fire patrol saved the destructive elements from getting into the huge stand of pine in the Long Prairie unit owned by the Ewauna Lumber company.

Mr. Space stated that putting out the above by only two guards is considered very good work since at present very bad fire weather prevails.

Because of the dry season the relative humidity is low. Since 30 per cent humidity is considered the danger line, the present prevailing humidity which is getting so low as 13 per cent, keeps the fire service in constant fear of a sudden blaze.

The rainfall of six inches this season is only half the normal supply. In the past, however, Mr. Space has managed to keep his fires within a 40-acre area and he is in hopes of doing so this season even though the natural elements are against him.

His work is greatly facilitated by the skill of the lookouts. During 1928 Mt. Calimus spotted each fire accurately during the entire summer season.

When a fire crew is ready to go out they find that other fast workers have been busy getting all necessities ready to take along.

Grub lists are made up in 1, 2, 3, size assortments according to requirements. When a fire broke out last summer, Space phoned Ed Gowen's store at Sprague river, that a major order was needed.

In one-half hour Gowen had the supplies packed for 50 men who had only to grab it and rush on by toward the threatened area.

The Amazon river is 4,000 miles in length, as compared with the 3,160-mile length of the Mississippi river.

One out of every five of our presidents have been vice presidents who came to office through the death of the president.

THOUGHTS ON U. S. AFFAIRS

(Continued from Page One)

did not help create. This left the way clear to appoint Carkin to Fisher's old job, put Fisher and Galloway on the new positions.

* * *

YOU might call it "bootlegging" an appointment, but it is good sense to do it because of the men named. John Carkin lives and eats taxation. Earl Fisher uses it for pass words at his lodges and some say he has the habit of saying a word about taxation before each meal. Galloway had years of experience in the work and knows what should be done.

* * *

IN OUR judgment the new super-commission is off to a good start. The three men will sit as a court on taxation matters. Appeals may be taken to them from different counties when people feel their assessment is unjust. This insures plenty to do, but it also insures a court that will listen to the arguments of the taxpayer. No longer will men feel that they are arbitrarily assessed. The commission will act as the safety valve and has sweeping powers to adjust taxation matters.

* * *

WE BELIEVE if this commission functions as it is intended to function there will be greater equality in taxation in Oregon, and therefore will be no need for a personal income or other fancy taxes. Equality of assessment is a big undertaking, but the start has been made and the men named are good men for the job.

* * *

VANDALISM in the gardens of Klamath continues to be reported. The last case was a bad one. Two grown men and two women at 10 o'clock at night uprooted and destroyed some choice shrubs in a lawn within three blocks of Main street. An intelligence test should be administered to such people. They are anything but sane.

CATTLE ARRIVE FOR FATTENING

"There are probably 50,000 head of beef cattle already in Wood River valley," Jack McAuliffe, prominent cattle operator stated today. Mr. McAuliffe is at the Hotel Hall while here on business.

More than 500 cars of beef feeder stock have arrived at the feeding grounds in the past six weeks.

The grass has been a little backward in Wood River valley this year, but a fine thick crop is hoped for, according to Mr. McAuliffe.

HOTEL GUEST ROBBED TODAY

(Continued from Page One)

"I guess I've got the wrong room."

Krueger leaped out of bed and tried to locate a pistol in his grip. The weapon had slipped in between two shirts and during the time he was searching for it, the thief scuttled down the hall and to safety. Another guest of the hotel named Wilbur lost a moderate amount the same night.

Gilbert Shea and E. C. Dahl, connected with the J. F. Shea Plumbing company of Portland, lost considerable cash from their room in the Valley hotel. Vern Burroughs, a guest of the Empire hotel, was another victim.

E. B. Hall, proprietor of the Hall hotel, explained how the thieves operated.

"They usually take a room in the hotel they wish to rob and after spending some time studying the guests and their habits wait until their victims go to bed," he said. "Then with a pair of forceps, they get hold of the key and turn it over in the lock—shoving the key on through would make too much noise. If they awake the hotel guest, they politely make some apology and before the guest has the opportunity to become wide awake enough to know what it is all about, they slip back to their own room."

The British Colonial Empire now has an area of 2,000,000,000 quare miles, a population of 50,000,000 and an expanding trade of $2,500,000,000.

THIEF CLOUTS GIRL ON HEAD; UNDER ARREST

LOS ANGELES, May 25, (UP)—A purse snatcher who struck pretty Yvonne Beeman, 18, over the head with a heavy stick, was in the city jail last night after a sensational chase through the business district which ended abruptly when he was tackled by three pedestrians.

The suspect, James R. Conley, 29, hit Miss Beeman in an office building, snatched her purse and fled to the street. The girl's cries attracted passersby, and the chase followed.

REV. J. H. THOMAS TO SPEAK TONIGHT

Rev. J. Henry Thomas, pastor of St. Paul's Episcopal church, member of the Salvation Army Advisory board will deliver an address tonight at Salvation Army Hall.

Rev. Thomas will speak following the regular open air service which is held at 7:30 o'clock on Sixth and Main street.

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On Tuesday, May 28, 7:45: The fall of Modern Babylon Ho does it affect our generation?
Wednesday, May 29, 7:45: Gospel finance or how to make money while paying the preacher.
Thursday, May 30, 7:45: Baptism by water or by the Spirit. Which is the more essential to Salvation?
Friday, May 31, 7:45: If a man is led astray by a false teacher, will God hold the teacher responsible and let one deceived go free?
Sunday, June 2, 7:45: How many of our present-day protestant church forms are baptized Heathenism?

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