

The Evening Herald

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THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1929

The District Canal

A bill providing for the appropriation of \$200,000 with which to finance the construction of a tunnel through the main canal of the Klamath Irrigation district would flow from Prospect street to a point near Esplanade and Alameda streets, has been introduced in congress by Robert Butler, congressman from this district.

When the route of the canal was first laid out, there were practically no houses near the canal; the city was centered, for the most part, between Eighth street and the Link River bridge. Since that time, however, Klamath Falls has grown from a remote hamlet to a thriving industrial city and populous residential districts are located along both sides of the waterway.

If the canal were to be built today, there is no question but what a tunnel would be constructed in order to prevent an accident and health hazard. In our opinion, the government is just as obligated to construct the tunnel today when the need is apparent, as it would have been twenty years ago if the same need existed at that time.

But Congressman Butler and the rest of the Oregon delegation will have a hard time in securing the passage of this bill. It is a difficult thing to convince legislators, 300 miles away, of the need of such an improvement. Probably there will be suggestions that the city pay for half the project.

If it is passed we predict it will get through congress through that time honored practice of "Log Rolling"—in other words, the Oregon delegation will promise to vote for certain projects in other states providing delegations of those states lend their support to the Klamath bill.

Changing conditions make old phrases sound queer. Remember when the divorce details included "custody of the children."

New York's show business is suffering—due to the radio, and the fact that hicks no longer are afraid to make whoopee at home.

EDITORIALS

From Over the Nation

THE MODERN TENDENCY.

The World's stock of the General Motors corporation now exceeds \$4,000,000,000 in market value. The physical valuation of the company is a little better than a billion dollars. It is easy enough to see why its market value should be four times its actual value. The company is earning \$270,000,000 a year. Here is a very vivid but not a very unique case of the kind of logic which supports the whole of modern industry.

The productivity of the machine creates fabulous values for the owners which have no other basis but the hope of continued dividends. Once created on the stock market, these values get played into the whole economic system. Any effort to do justice to workers through more adequate wage scales, unemployment

insurance, old age pensions, and the like is therefore bound to meet the resistance of every person who holds this bloated stock. It will be a tedious dangerous radicalism which imperils the "property" of American citizens.

A civilization that honestly believes in respect for property as basic to a social order had better not go much farther in destroying that respect than ours is going. Men are inclined to hold traditional institutions in respect beyond what they deserve. But there are limits to both patience and credulity, and once these have been reached a resentful people usually destroy even that modicum of respect which the facts may justify. If the idea of property becomes as totally divorced from social functions as is the tendency in modern industrialism, nothing will finally be able to save it against the wrath of an outraged people.

TIMELY QUOTATIONS FROM PEOPLE IN THE PUBLIC EYE

"Courage and imagination are necessary to restore our economic prestige—courage to scrap ruthlessly old-fashioned methods and machinery, and imagination in exploring every commercial avenue overseas."—The Prince of Wales.

"Of course, if someone came along with a bona fide offer for \$1,000,000, I'd have to consider it seriously."—Jack Dempsey, former heavyweight champion.

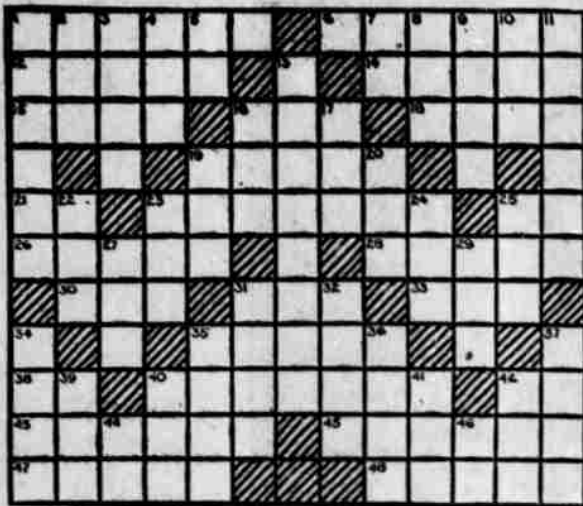
"The classic of all classics is the Bible."—Calvin Coolidge.

"No one can be a good Christian and not believe in demons of all kinds."—H. L. Mencken.

"The earnest women who compose the Ladies Aid Society in the Baptist church in Genoa, Neb., are positively brilliant compared with their sisters who frequent the night clubs of New York."—William Lyon Phelps, professor at Yale. (Outlook).

"Watching what goes on in one's head is an experience just as truly as watching what a new-born baby does when you threaten to drop it."—Dr. James Harvey Robinson, author.

Cross - Word Puzzle



HORIZONTAL

1. What city is the capital of Canada?
6. Of what ocean is the Hudson Bay an arm?
12. Din.
14. To cut off as a horse's mane.
15. To shed tears.
16. Sun.
18. The oak.
19. Decreased.
21. Sun god.
22. Portions of a circle bounded by two radii and their included arc.
25. Like.
26. Fearful apprehension.
28. To warble.
30. Small threaded cover of a tube.
31. Ocean.
33. Chum.
35. To trespass, especially to secure game or fish.
38. Sixth not of the musical scale.
40. A representation of some scene, by persons in suspended action.
42. Three-toed sloth.
43. To tax.
44. Ascending.
47. What is the chief agricultural crop in Canada?
48. Bursts.

VERTICAL

1. Forward.
2. Portion of the foot.
3. Made an equal score.
4. Venomous snake.
5. You and I.
7. Abbreviation for "railroad."
8. Bunk.
9. Net weight of a container.
10. Frozen water.
11. What is the consolidated curd of milk used as a food called?
13. Which is the largest city in Canada?
16. Membranous bag.
17. What constellation is named after a lion?
19. Married.
20. Arid.
22. Portion of a curved line.
23. Fluid of a tree.
24. Anything steeped.
25. Every.
27. Organ of hearing.
29. A simpleton.
31. Cries convulsively.
32. Maple tree.
34. Defect.
35. A former time or state.
36. Scalp covering.
37. Excavates.
39. Tree having tough wood.
40. Afternoon meal.
41. To employ.
42. Conjunction.
44. Point of compass.
46. Within.

Here's Answer For Yesterday

ASH SATIN CAT
 DOE ADORE AGE
 ALA LIMIT RUE
 PERMIT STREET
 T TEE LITH
 AND DEG
 CARTE EDITY
 HALT FOG DOLE
 ACT DIVOT NAP
 SEE INANE ACE
 ERR DELED LYE

LETTER GOLF

W I S H
 M U C H

START TO WISH

You can get MUCH in letter golf if you first WISH for it and then take four strokes. That's par and the solution is on page 5.

THE RULES

- 1—The idea of Letter Golf is to change one word to another and do it in par, a given number of strokes. Thus to change COW to HEN, in three strokes, COW, HOW, HEW, HEN.
- 2—You change only one letter at a time.
- 3—You must have a complete word, of common usage, for each jump. Slang words and abbreviations don't count.
- 4—The order of letters cannot be changed.

One solution is printed on page eight.

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DAILY LETTER ON AFFAIRS AT U. S. CAPITAL

O'Fallon Case Decision Undid a Lot of Expensive Work By Interstate Commerce Commission; Must Be Done All Over Again.

By Rodney Dutcher (NEA Service Writer)

WASHINGTON, June 6.—The Interstate Commerce Commission presumably will have to shoot in the dark with its railroad valuation decisions until it finally hits a scheme of valuation which a majority of the United States supreme court can approve.

The court's recent decision in the case of the St. Louis & O'Fallon railroad, while it doubtless has encouraged railroad and other public utilities owners who always yearn for higher rates and greater profits, probably will not in itself affect the utilities rate structures at this time.

Nevertheless, the decision has forced the I. C. C. to do a lot of work all over again and has put off the day which will determine whether the railroads must surrender or be permitted to retain millions of dollars which is claimed by the government under the recapture provisions of the Transportation Act which allow them a profit of six per cent. Some of the recapture money has been paid, but railroads have held out a lot more.

It's still unsettled.
 These are the immediate results of the O'Fallon decision, in case anyone has been confused. The supreme court has left up in the air the question of how a regulating body should value a public utility for rate-making

purposes. It said the I. C. C. decision in the O'Fallon case was wrong because it didn't take in the cost of reproduction factor, but failed to say to what extent that factor should be allowed to count.

The court has been leaving the issue up in the air for 30 years. In 1898, in the famous case of Smyth vs. Ames, it enumerated several factors, including "the present as compared with the original cost of construction" and said that these were "all matters for consideration, and are to be given such weight as may be just and right in each case."

The decision, of course, left it up to the court in the event of final appeal to determine whether or not each of these factors had been given proper weight. It gave rate-fixing commissions no "advice" to go by and they had to make up their own.

In the O'Fallon decision the court devoted itself principally to rebuking the I. C. C. for not taking the reproduction cost factor into account. Justice Stone, in his dissenting opinion, suggested in effect that the I. C. C., by wording its decision differently, could have avoided this objection, but it appears to have been the idea of the commission that the problem ought to be publicly thrashed out. If so, it was an admirable aim, but the court now virtually leaves the I. C. C. back to 1898 with Smyth vs. Ames.

Justice Brandeis, in his dissenting opinion, says that the majority of the court held that the rate base should be the actual value and his conception of its idea has not been contradicted. Members of the I. C. C. point out, however, that actual value fluctuates from year to year and that it is always a "cr-

rifle job to determine it. The court's majority opinion went out of its way, incidentally, to admit that no doubt the actual value of some railroads would have to be placed "far below the cost of reproduction."

A Tough Problem.

As long as the supreme court continues to lay down no general rule as to the relative weight which rate-making bodies should give to various valuation factors, it is likely to be up against such a problem as would be presented if a state commission in one state gave reproduction cost 60 per cent weight in determining a utility valuation and another state gave a similar utility's reproduction cost only five per cent weight—and both cases were carried to the supreme court. Such an occurrence would make it much more difficult for the court to maintain its present position.

But the court has changed its attitude before.
 Away back in the seventies, in the case of Munn vs. Illinois, one of the Granger cases, it held that it wasn't up to the courts to determine the fairness of utility rates, but to the legislatures.

TEACHER RESIGNS TO TAKE UP CHURCH WORK

Helen M. Wylie, teacher at Mills school, has resigned her position with the city schools to engage in the work of the ministry.

Recently Miss Wylie received her local preacher's license from the First Methodist church. The greater part of the summer Miss Wylie will spend in Corvallis engaged in Christian service.

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