

The Tillamook Headlight.

Fred C. Baker, Publisher.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

FREQUENT emphasis has been made in the newspapers in regard to relieving the supreme court, and a measure is pending in the state legislature for that purpose. No doubt there is an imperative necessity for better and speedier administration of our laws, but we do not think it is in that direction it should come. For the most part, it has been insisted, our laws are good enough and there are enough of them. If we lived up to the standard they set, we would be a very happy and enviable people indeed and it would not be necessary for moral crusaders to go on the war path. But we do not live up to them nor enforce them. We are always "solving problems" by making new laws, and then apparently expecting them to enforce themselves. Criminals have, first, the chances of escaping detection, and after these, the law's proverbial delays. There are stays of proceedings from month to month, often from year to year. Acquittals on wire-drawn technicalities, appeals from court to court, until witnesses are dead or bought off, and the public interest in a particular crime effaced by a thousand new ones. The same may be said of civil actions. No wonder that lynching is resorted to and cases are left undecided for years, when attorneys are allowed such latitude. We might learn a lesson from Canada. The population of the Dominion exceeds six million. Their record for 1899 shows but twenty-five indictments for murder. At the end of the year eleven of the indicted persons had been hanged, nine were acquitted, three were shut up as insane, and only two were left with their cases standing over into the new year for trial. The same swift, stern justice runs through the whole criminal administration. Robbers are not turned loose on burlesque bail to go out and repeat their crimes. "Released convicts" do not figure by the hundred in criminal news. When an offender is once rounded up by the police they rarely have to hunt for him again.

THE Ocean Wave feels hurt because we used what it calls vulgar language. If we have done so, Bro. Weatherly, we will plead guilty if you will do so for using the same weapons to assail us the previous week. We do not like that style of journalism. When our contemporary at Woods says: "The Headlight in its special edition gave this port a black eye, and whenever occasion offered it has continually done so," is an assertion which cannot be proven. True, we are opposed to the division of the county because we have seen nothing to justify such a course. When we came a stranger to Tillamook a little over two years ago we saw at a glance that the county needed advertising and bringing into closer touch with the commercial world. First, we issued the special edition at considerable cost for material and labor, and from all appearances the county is getting many new settlers through it, and as an instance of the inquiry about Tillamook at the present time we have mailed over 100 copies the past two weeks, not that we expect to be rewarded on this earth for this kind of missionary work. As to the improvement of Tillamook bar the Headlight was not slow to grasp the situation and advocate its improvement, and in this respect we were instrumental in assisting to bring about the satisfactory results which now present themselves. Last summer when the Pacific Navigation Company had tons of Tillamook freight tied up at Astoria and the creameries in this county had large quantities of butter they could not ship to market and deteriorating in value every day, the Headlight criticised the navigation company so severely that it boycotted the Headlight. But it had its good effect, for although it may not be generally known the business interest of Portland saw the importance of relieving the deplorable situation, and to head off the trade from going to San Francisco, an independent railroad line has been on the tapis since then, which culminated a few days since in a company being formed, as will be seen in another column. We have steadfastly labored for the development, both industrial and commercial, of Tillamook county, and not, as the Ocean Wave is doing, causing sectional prejudices for the purpose of dividing up the county to satisfy a few chronic kickers. No, Bro. Weatherly, there is no fear of the Headlight becoming "one of the has-beens" as long as we advocate what is for the best interest of the entire county. That is the Headlight's mission, and the policy we shall continue to pursue will be to build-up, not to divide-up, the county with industrial enterprises when the transportation problem is solved either by a railroad or the improvement of the bars. And if the Ocean Wave was controlled by these motives it would be better for the south end of the county, but as long as it is the mouth-piece of some few chronic kickers it will never secure the respect of the citizens or do the county much good finding fault with those who are enterprising and strive to bring about a better state of affairs.

As treating by a candidate running for office, or by his agents, of only a glass of beer or a cigar, will deprive a person of filling the office in England, what a blessing—for candidates—if we had stringent bribery and corruption laws in Oregon of a like nature. Another thing, a person who is a candidate for Parliament must confine their election expenses to a certain limit and file a sworn itemized account after the election is over. As it takes a big wad, both out of the political "pot" and the pockets of candidates to ensure election in Multnomah county, we will gamble that the candidates in that county and the city of Portland would be ashamed to have to publish the amount of money the legion of "suckers" extracted from them during a campaign, for they include ladies selling tickets for church fairs and concerts to the common saloon bum who are always on the alert for candidates. Now all this is wrong, but custom has made it so. Why not, then, stop this custom of "suckers" almost hounding candidates to death. For self-protection we wonder some of the victims have not appealed to the state legislature for a law to be enacted to prevent them from being fleeced and financially busted after the ordeal is over. Game and fish are protected, and why not political candidates?

It is amusing to hear the Portland newspapers say that gambling is to stop in that city. We have heard that before and generally sized it up correctly when we characterize it as another political trick. Having adopted the public "graft" system of imposing a fine upon the gambling houses every month, this, we suppose, is not in accord with the ideas of certain politicians to raise funds for campaign purposes, so it is not surprising to hear that this is to be abolished and the politicians acquiescing in the demands of the moral crusaders. This may be effectual in closing up some of the gambling joints for a time, but when this moral wave has blown itself out it will not surprise us much if a few persons are not allowed to monopolize the gambling houses on the understanding that they contribute monthly to the political "pot" as in previous years, the same as city and county officials have had to. Politics makes strange bed fellows, and when moral crusaders and politicians play at the same game look out for the trump cards the politicians have up their sleeves ready to play when an opportunity presents itself. And for that reason we have very little faith in the moral crusaders accomplishing anything until they first purify politics.

Two reform measures were introduced in the state legislature. One is a bill to make treating in saloons a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of \$50 or imprisonment in the county jail for a period of 26 days. We think we can enlarge upon that by the same penalty for treating cigars in drug stores and cigar stands. The other measure is a copy of a Nebraska law requiring the windows and doors of saloons and billiard and poolrooms to remain unobstructed by screens, blinds, paint or other articles. A penalty of from \$25 to \$100, or 10 days in jail, is provided for a violation of the latter bill, if it becomes. However, when people will bob up for a short time and pose as reformers it is safe to predict that very little reform will follow. Saloons by a long way are not the only places where people tiddle.

WHEN Mr. W. C. Cassell wrote: "If Tillamook wants a railroad let the Headlight unscrew its head, set its face north, catch Astoria's eye and work with might and main with Astoria and you will get a railroad soon, and from the same source that built the Astoria road, and no other." When we received that communication we had previously received private intimation of what was going on in Portland to give Tillamook an independent railroad line from that city. Now that some of the plans have been made public we feel like being a bit saucy with Mr. Cassell and inquiring whether he has unscrewed his head to catch Portland's eye yet?

THE Oregonian had a snap shot at Representative B. L. Eddy when he was making his speech nominating Mr. McBride for senator. It said he was "making the effort of his life." Not much, for had Mr. Eddy been a tool in the hands of the ring republicans of Portland and nominated Mr. Corbett instead the Oregonian would have said what the Statesmen did: "Mr. Eddy, the eloquent young member from Tillamook county, in placing Mr. McBride in nomination, made one of the best addresses ever heard on the floor of the house. It was brief and to the point, and the eloquent gentleman was rewarded with a storm of applause."

THE London Spectator takes the sensible view of the Nicaragua canal matter. The editor of that journal is not having any fits over the position of this country that if it builds the canal it must control it. If English ships have the use of it on equal terms with all other nations the Spectator thinks that it is all that can reasonably be asked and plainly states that if the English government was to build the canal it would certainly insist upon controlling it and protecting it, if protection was necessary. The Spectator has evidently rubbed the smoke off its glasses.

This may interest a lot of people who

were members of the Chosen Friends at some time. That order is in debt to the amount of \$800,000, with only \$2000 in hand. We see that a bill is introduced in the state legislature for orders with reserve funds to place it in the keeping of the state, or its equivalent in bonds, and as this may have a tendency to assure people that the funds cannot be tampered with, the bill presents many features worthy of consideration.

TEMPERANCE reformers are trying to make Hillsboro a "dry town," and with commendable generosity they are willing to pay into the city treasury annually an amount equal to that now received from the saloon licenses. These reformers in Hillsboro mean business and have some backbone.

If the bill to expedite receiverships within a time limit of twelve months will be accomplished that desired object, the state legislature should pass the bill, for if ever the country gets down to democratic hard times again it will come in very handy. Anyway, it should be given a trial.

THOSE who want a "snap" have lost it by not being in Alaska, for on January 16 it was 68 degrees below at Dawson and 77 degrees below zero at Forty Mile. We are not looking after a "snap" like that, for the weather in Tillamook is good enough.

If the politicians and lobbyists now at Salem could be rounded up and killed off like the rabbits in Eastern Oregon, what a blessing it would be to the state, for their whole struggle for supremacy is to bilk the taxpayers.

THE Yaquina Bay News says: "The Tillamook Headlight had the blues last week, i.e., printed on blue paper," and the Lincoln County Leader chimes in with "The Headlight is always all right—regardless of color."

ROOSEVELT is hunting in Colorado and killing mountain lions. Is the vice-president-elect in training to choke off some of those long-winded legislators when he presides over the senate?

THE La Grande Chronicle is inquiring. What shall we do when the wood is all gone? We have enough problems to solve without attempting to solve them for the next generation.

JUST fancy, one of the state legislators at Salem has introduced a bill putting a 5c. bounty on crows when there is \$25,000 offered for the Omaha Crows.

It may interest those who are holding scalp-bounty warrants to know that a bill has been introduced to levy a one mill tax to pay them off.

The Leavenworth Horror.

Another horrible example of the terrible effects of human passion when loosened by a mob has been given the world at Leavenworth, Kan. There a man, held only on suspicion, against whom no positive evidence was known to exist, was torn from a cell in the county jail in broad daylight and burned to death. His steady protestation of innocence, his reasonable request that the mob make sure before consigning him to his awful fate, had no weight. The demon was aroused and nothing but the blood of the victim would satisfy it.

What a remarkable commentary on our boasted civilization such a proceeding is! How thin the veneer of culture seems and how narrow the division between civilized and savage man. Kansas has laws made to punish the crime of which the negro was accused, and, if he had been proven guilty, he would surely have suffered the direst penalty. But the hysteria engendered by contemplation of the murder of one girl and a brutal assault on another rose to that point where all respect for law and order vanished and only a desire to wreak vengeance on some one remained.

Mob violence is not peculiar to any section of the United States. Even in the most conservative of communities the spirit that leads men to take the law into their own hands and to mete out death to some person accused of a revolting crime has broken out from time to time. In Colorado, whose people are in many ways among the most enlightened of the nation's citizenship, we were recently given an illustration of this inability to control the darkest passion that animates the human breast, the lust for vengeance. It is going too far, perhaps, to condemn all the people of the community in which the crime was committed, much less the people of the entire state. Yet they will long have to bear the stigma and odium that attaches to such an outrageous deed.

Obedience to the law is the highest test of citizenship, and whenever a man has reached the point where he can submit his sense of private outrage to the operations of our established courts of justice, he is indeed a good citizen. If he reserves to himself the right to take his own vengeance on the offender, he is a menace. The Ohio method of dealing with the mob is the only safe one, and right thinking people will hope that the authorities of Kansas will see to it that not one of those responsible for the terrible affair at Leavenworth escapes his merited punishment.

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Secular Shots at Pulpit.
Prof. Herron declares that he is a member of a church whose teaching he repudiates and he dares the organization to put him out. Singular attitude for a social and religious reformer. Why on earth should anyone stick like a leech to a church whose creed he publicly denounces?

One of the New York pastors arose and denounced vaccination to his congregation last Sunday. This looks a little as if sixteenth century bigotry and narrowness had forced themselves across the new century's threshold. Anything new along the line of medical innovations was characterized as an insult to an all-wise Providence in those dark days.

Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones says it is extremely hard to see business men long enough to explain to them the situation as to vicin the city and to interest them in the campaign against it. That is the old story. Many Chicagoans are too busy to attend to the smoke nuisance, to the saloons, to vice, to municipal maladministration—to anything except moneymaking. And then when they make their money they pronounce the city unfit to live in and shake off the dust and dirt and go to New York to die.

This whole matter of determining the life of the churches by their gains or losses of membership is most unsatisfactory and deceiving. Fifty years ago when a church member was spoken of it meant one who had subscribed to a definite creed and articles of faith. What the membership of the evangelical churches would be if every man in them was excluded from fellowship who did not subscribe to the old creed of the fathers, it is difficult to say. When a person "joins" a Protestant church today he does not necessarily believe every article of the creed or agree with others on theological points, and his good fellowship is seldom questioned.

Elasts from Ram's Horn.
Only he can secure success who is willing to face failure.
Men are ever ready to amend the gospel and then put the amendment first.

You cannot expect to feel at home in the church while you stay out on the stoop.
The great question is not Are you ready to die, but Are you ready to live again?
Many preachers yield to a reversed temptation; they turn the bread into stones.
There is a tremendous chasm between the poetry we applaud and the prose we apply.
The greatest contradiction is the church that pretends to pray to God while it preys on the world.

When Paul wrote of "lifting up holy hands" he was not contemplating the stand and deliver style of prayer.
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