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FULL LEASED WIRE TELEGRAPH REPORT

WE ARE INCONSISTENT.

THE Humphreys have paid the penalty for the crime of which they were accused and of the commission of which the jury pronounced them guilty. They were not men of strong mentality, and were, perhaps, if guilty, as much the victims of circumstances, as of criminal instinct. With their dying breath, and when about to face the great unknown, under circumstances that would compel the truth, if circumstances can compel it, they proclaimed their innocence. They had confessed previously, but they claimed this confession was induced by hope of clemency, and that it was untrue. However, guilty or innocent, matters not now. Saturday morning, while most of Salem people were enjoying their breakfast, these two brothers were taken from the cell and marched to the execution chamber. There they climbed the little stairway and stood under the two dangling hempen nooses. There, after a few words from their spiritual advisers, and with scant ceremony the black caps were pulled down over their eyes, shutting out the world forever. Then the nooses were placed around their necks, the traps were sprung, and with a thud, once heard never to be forgotten, their bodies brought up at the end of a quivering rope. There were a few muscular contortions, a heaving of the breast, then they were beyond the reach of men, to further judge or further punish.

The laws was vindicated—the scales of Justice were balanced, her eyes still blindfolded, and she, ready to blindly administer more of the same treatment to others—in the interest of humanity, that in the countless ages has found no better way to deter others from crime, than through the fear inspired by death. And yet about the poorest use,, even the most degraded man can be put to, is to filling a grave. We say it is a deterrent. Is it? Just note the news columns of the papers tomorrow, and for a few days to come See if you read of any murders, and note how many. Then hug to yourself, if you can, the delusion that capital punishment deters others from committing murder. If it is the horrible example that accomplishes this benign result of preventing murder, why not go the limit and make executions more horrible. Why adopt the least painful modes of death? Why not the headsman, instead, with his gory ax, the headless trunk, the quivering body, the bloody block and all the grewsome surroundings so well calculated to awaken the deadliest fear? If we must kill, in order to teach others that they must not kill, why not give the act the widest publicity, rather than taking the victim into some secluded spot, away from the public view, and there assassinating him at our leisure and in a nice quiet, gentlemanly way. If it is the example to others that we seek, why not let others see it? Why not have our little social functions of that sort performed in the public square, with all the spectacular and ghastly accompaniaments possible, and the general public for whose guidance and salvation the execution is made, invited to attend and behold the punishment meted out to him who takes human life? If capital punishment is correct, if it is to deter others from committing crime, then we are inconsistent in not insisting on public executions, with torture added. If we must kill, to inspire fear, why then let's do it in a manner to inspire the greatest amount of fear, and do our killing where the example will have the largest audience. Let us advertise the goods which the criminal is to receive, in the widest manner possible, or else, let's cut loose from a system that in 5000 years has not accomplished anything that it is advertised to accomplish, and try some other plan.

PASSING THE WEBB BILL OVER PRESIDENT'S VETO

Th action of congress in passing the Webb bill over the president's veto might, on snap judgment, be regarded as an impressive indication of moral courage on the part of the legislators responsible for the step. Actually it is the reverse of this. The president is going out of office within a few days, but temperance voters are going to keep on voting, and they will continue to make things unpleasant for legislators who oppose so-called temperance legislation. For that reason the Webb bill has been carried to the enactment, just as the canteen law was put on the statute books, and kept there in defiance of the advice of those best qualified to judge of its merit. The very considerations that induced Mr. Taft to veto the bill will, in all probability, cause the courts to declare it unconstitutional. Not only does this measure involve a new and radical interference with the process of interstate commerce, but it makes the state, rather than the nation, the paramount authority in determining the place and circumstance of such interference.

Th act forbids the interstate shipment of intoxicating liquors "intended by any person interested to be received, possessed, sold or in any manner used, either in the original package or otherwise, in violation of any law" of the state or territory into which it is the purpose to ship or transport it. Granted that this bill withstands the scrutiny of the supreme court, how can it be possible to determine the intention of persons interested in a particular consignment of liquors? The act does not apply to liquors intended for personal consumption by the consignee or for sacramental use. One may be morally certain that liquors are intended for illegal use, but that is not legal proof. Certainly the shipper who has received an order for a quantity of liquors from some individual cannot be assumed to know the intention of the purchaser.

We may well question the practical utility of such a law, but it is unnecessary to enter into that aspect of the case or into the merits of prohibition as a general policy to find abundant justification for the veto interposed by Mr. Taft. The weakness of the act on constitutional grounds was well set forth by Senator Root, and it will be strange if events fail to sustain his position. We have no doubt that many of the legislators who voted for this measure entertain in a greater or less degree the doubt voiced by Senator Root, but they preferred to pass the responsibility along to the courts. It is well that the president has commented on this feature of the case so directly and emphatically.

The tendency of legislative bodies to yield against their own best judgment to clamor for this measure or that by a well-organized though minority element, and thereby encumber the courts with crude and questionable legislation, should be sharply discountenanced. This policy is wrong fundamentally, and it encourages a spirit of cowardice that should find no place in a legislative body. The president is entitled to unqualified praise, while congress is equally deserving of disapproval, in this connection. The courts will test the constitutionality of the act, and it is safe, we think, to predict that states will still face the responsibility of enforcing the prohibition legislation they enact.—Springfield (Mass.) Union.

FAVORS HIGHEST LAND UTILIZATION

Secretary of the Interior States His Position on Public Land Resources.

Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane has stated his position with respect to insuring the highest utilization of public land resources in a case of great importance in which must interest is being manifested in the Pacific Northwest. The secretary recently received through Senator Poindexter a telegram from a state senator stating that the legislature of Washington had unanimously passed an act reserving all waters in the Wenatchee basin, but that before the act was signed by the governor certain power interests had filed on these waters, and urging the president and the secretary of the interior to serve the best interests of the state of Washington by maintaining intact President Taft's executive order, withdrawing the 18,553 acres of reservoir sites involved. Both this federal withdrawal and the state reservation were made with a view to possible utilization of the water for the irrigation of 290,000 acres in the Quincy valley, on the east side of the Columbia river, which, as stated in the telegram to Senator Poindexter, "means millions to the state of Washington and further development of Quincy valley."

The secretary's letter to Senator Poindexter points out clearly that he has no intention of revoking the order of withdrawal of the public land. He states:

"This action by the federal government was initiated in response to the request of citizens of your state, and in view of the recent action of the Washington legislature reserving all waters in the Wenatchee watershed it illustrates the type of co-operation between state and nation necessary to promote the highest utilization and development. You may be assured, therefore, that no revocation of this executive withdrawal will be recommended without first affording full opportunity for the presentation of the views of your constituents and for the complete investigation of the possible uses of this river."

INSURANCE COMPANIES ARE MAKING MONEY

A compilation of figures made by State Insurance Commissioner Ferguson shows that during 1912 stock fire insurance companies doing business in Oregon made collections in premiums amounting to more than twice the amount paid out for fire losses.

Commissioner Ferguson's figures show that the sum of $3,252,393 were collected in premiums, while the losses paid amounted ot $1,547,936, of 47.6 per cent of the amount collected in premiums.

At the top of the list stands the Hartford Fire Insurance Co., with premiums amounting to $106,295 and losses amounting to $66,931. The Home Insurance Co., of New York, stands next. Its premiums were $103,763, and its losses $32,617. The German-American Insurance Co., of New York, collected $102,559 and paid out in losses $69,816.

There are 114 insurance companies doing fire insurance business in the state. Of this number only three of the smaller companies paid out more in losses than they collected in premiums. These three were the Marine Insurance Co., of London. This company collected $2977 and paid our 3779. The People's National Fire Insurance Co., of Philadelphia, received in premiums $4764 and paid out in losses $5843. The Union Marine Insurance Co., of Liverpool, received $7915 and paid out $11,157.

MARY GETTING BUSY ON $3,000,000 JOB

Boston, March 24.—To comply with the terms of her father's strange will, which cuts her off from a $3,000,000 legacy unless she marries and becomes a mother, Miss Mary Belle Shedd of Lowell has announced her engagement today. The name of the prospective husband is being held a secret.

THE OPEN FORUM

The Capital Journal invites public discussion in this department—Let both sides of all matters be fully brought out—It is not the purpose of this newspaper to do the thinking for its readers.

His Salary $2100.

Editor Capital Journal:

Dear Sir: I have a few suggestions to offer in the matter of raising the salary of the present city attorney, which I hope may be of some little benefit to you in ferreting out the exact status of the case, which are as follows:

A reference to the city payroll shows that the city of Salem pays our present city attorney $2100 per year instead of $1500 as previously supposed. If your editorial writer or one of your staff reporters will consult the city's monthly pay roll as compiled by the recorder at the end of each month and passed by the common council, either at the last meeting of each month or first meeting of that body in the succeeding month, the party consulting such records will notice that the name of Rollin K. Page appears twice on each pay roll, first as Rollin K. Page, city attorney, $125; second, Rollin K Page, stenographic work, $50. These two monthly items place the city attorney salary at $175 per month or $2100 per year. It would also be noticed that the city recorder and the city engineer both have considerable stenographic work, but neither of the last named officials have ever made any pretense of collecting one single cent for that class of work in person. These officials have placed the names of their stenographers on the payroll where the citizens of this city may learn just who the city employs and the amount paid for such services. Since the city council has allowed the city attorney the privilege of collecting $50 a month for stenographic work without naming for whom the extra $50 is for, why not allow the other city officials the same privilege? How many attorneys in this city with limited practice pay their stenographers $50? Since the city has a city paid stenographer in the city attorney's office her name should appear on the city pay roll as a regular employe of the city and her work confined strictly to city work and in no wise allowed in work connected with private practice. Just why our city attorney has failed to place the name of his stenographer on the pay roll is a question not readily answered. But it is the opinion that the work connected with city attorney's office is not of such a voluminous nature as to require the services of a stenographer 26 days each month. A good stenographer one or two days each week would be all the time necessary to draft all the resolutions, ordinances and long-winded opinions, stating, "that from the best authorities I have at hand, if such and such were the condition of affairs, then the case would be thus," which means nothing. However since the city attorney has a city paid stenographer at his command all the time, would it not be a very good scheme if he would get the transcript of the South Salem sewer proceedings into the hands of those eastern bonding attorneys for an opinion. The people are anxious to know whether or not the city at large is to pay for the sewers or the property owners. This is the matter which should be brought to a head before many months pass.

If I am not very much mistaken the mayor promised the people prior to his election that he would put forth every effort in his power to have this sewer question settled. Two and one-half months have elapsed and the transcript has not been placed in the hands of the eastern bond attorneys. Too much time has been consumed in fighting over a few policemen and the buying of a fire automoile. It may be possible that Councilman Rigdon can supply the information necessary to settle this salary raising proposition as he stands sponsor for the city attorney, and at one meeting he took it upon himself to upbraid the mayor and Councilman Minton because they by authority of the council had employed a secret policeman and a warrant was drawn for $75 payabe to the mayor to pay for the the services of such a policeman. But no mention has ever been made of why the city attorney has been allowed to draw $50 per month for an unknown stenographer, or at least unknown as far as the city records are concerned.

These suggestions have been offered with the best of feeling for the good work your paper has started and in hopes that they bear fruit in more ways than one. I do not expect this to be published, therefore I do not sign, but a reference to the records at the city hall will bear out these assertions.

March 24, 1913.

CURIOUS.

GRANDMOTHER USED SAGE TEA TO DARKEN HER FADED OR GRAY HAIR

Mixed With Sulphur It Makes Hair Soft, Beautiful—Cures Dandruff.

The use of Sage and Sulphur for restoring faded, gray hair to its natural color dates back to grandmother's time. She kept her hair beautifully darkened, glossy and abundant with a brew of Sage Tea and Sulphur. Whenever her hair fell out or took on that dull, faded or streaked appearance this simple mixture was applied with wonderful effect.

But the brewing at home is mussy and out-of-date. Nowadays skilled chemists do this better than ourselves. By asking at any drug store for the ready-to-use product—called "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Hair Remedy"—you will get a large bottle for about 50 cents. Some druggists make their own, which is usually too sticky, so insist upon getting Wyeth's, which can be depended upon to restore natural color and beauty to the hair and is splendid for dandruff, dry, feverish, itchy scalp and falling.

A well known downtown druggist says his customers insist on Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur, because, they say, it darkens so naturally and evenly that nobody can tell it has been applied—it's so easy to use, too. You simply dampen a sponge or soft brush and draw it through your hair, taking one strand at a time. Do this at night and by morning the gray hair disappears; after another application or two, it is restored to its natural color and looks glossy, soft and abundant. J. C. Perry.

BASKETBALL TUESDAY DALLAS VS. INDEPENDENCE

A fast and interesting basketball game will be played at Willamette gymnasium Tuesday night, March 5, when the Independence high school meets the crack high school of Dallas. Each team has won one game, and this is the third and deciding game between them.

The Independence team has been coached by Dr. McIntyre, of Willamette university. All Salem fans will have a chance to see a good team in action.

A special train will be run from both Independence and Dallas. Game called at 8:30 p. m., sharp. Admission 25 cents. The lineup is:

Dallas—Woods and Boydson, forwards; Heistand, center; Herzog and Matheny, guards.

Independence—Williams and Reeves, forwards; Mix, center; Seely and Russell, guards.

SCIENCE APPLIED TO PUBLIC LAND ADMINISTRATION

The most direct application of science to national stewardship is the valuation of the public coal lands. The coal land law of 1873 is essentially a sales rather than a settlement law and provides for a minimum selling price. Since 1907 coal lands have been sold at appraised prices fixed by the United States geological survey on the basis of geologic field examination and chemical and physical analysis, valuation data of the latter kind being obtained from the bureau of mines, which is charged by its organic law with the analyzing and testing of coals and lignites.

Journal Want Advs. Bring Results.

Rabbit Egg Hatched.

Oakland, Cal., March 24.—Found deserted on the doorstep of Mr. and Mrs. Byron Lanyan, a two-days old girl baby is being taken care of by the Lanyans here today until a permanent home can be found for her. The child when found was swaddled in cotton and on top of the white ball was found this note:

"Dorothy Hazel, born 4 a. m., March 23."