

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING EXCEPT SUNDAY, SALEM, OREGON, BY

Capital Journal Ptg. Co., Inc.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Daily by carrier, per year\$5.00 Per month.....45c
Daily by mail, per year3.00 Per month.....35c

FULL LEASED WIRE TELEGRAPH REPORT

EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES

New York Chicago
Ward-Lewis-Williams Special Agency Harry R. Fisher Co.
Tribune Building 30 N. Dearborn St.

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LESS POLITICS AND MORE PATRIOTISM

The Oregonian a few days ago had quite a lengthy editorial on the duty of Americans getting together and working for a common purpose. Boiled down it took the position that we needed more patriotism and less politics.

It is true there naturally must be two parties at least, to which the voters may turn, for there will always be a wide divergence of opinion as to the best methods of managing public affairs, and it is impossible for all to get together in agreeing on many things.

While this is true as to affairs of national character it is no longer true of state and county affairs. Time was when the county and state offices were apportioned out to the party in power as rewards for political activities. The man who worked hardest and did the most for his party was given office according to his deserts.

The sheriff's office was always considered the plum in county offices with the county clerk's position a close second, and these officers were selected according to their merits as party workers, and not on account of their fitness for the places.

The same system exists yet as to federal appointments, the offices being considered the rewards turned over to the senators or congressmen to be apportioned to the party workers. As a result the federal offices such as collector of internal revenue and the postoffices are given as rewards for political services instead of for fitness.

So far as the federal offices are concerned the reasons that were responsible for the system still remain, that is party service.

It is a bad system, for it makes the senators and congressmen dictators in the state as to who shall fill the federal offices within the state, and is a species of bribery.

Whatever reason was back of this system in state and county affairs has vanished. There is no longer such a thing as state politics, for outside of using the name of one party or another to ride into office on, there is no state or county office that has anything to do with political affairs.

When the United States senators were elected by the legislature the politics of the individual legislator was of importance. His was in a sense a political office, for his political beliefs would—outside of extraneous circumstances—decide the political party from which the senator would be chosen.

When the election of senator was taken from the legislature the politics of the individual lawmaker ceased to be of any importance. The governor still has a remote political importance, for in case of a vacancy in the office of senator, he appoints.

Outside of the governor there is not an office in the state now that it makes any difference whether the occupant is a republican, a democrat, or of any other political faith.

What we need is officials who are best fitted for the positions and in selecting a sheriff or any other county officer his fitness for the place, his ability to perform the duties of the office best should be the only criterion. It would be as foolish to ask a candidate for any of these places his religion as his politics, for neither has any influence on his work.

Oregon has a vast work before it in solving many serious problems connected with her development, and in selecting her officers for this work she should select the best without regard to what they believe about the tariff, preparedness, Baxter's hints to the unconverted or who struck Billy Patterson. One of these has just as much to do with the ability of a person to carefully and successfully manage an office as the other.

In the selection of men, or women, to fill these places we should inquire into the honesty and efficiency of the candidates and not bother about their politics, religion or lodge affiliations. In this regard the Oregonian is correct. We need more patriotism and less politics, more sense and less sensitiveness about political beliefs; more handling of public business with the same care and watchfulness we display in managing our private affairs, and we certainly do not inquire into the politics or religion of our

lawyers, doctors or ministers. We do not ask our workmen about their political beliefs but hire them for their ability to do the work we have for them. Why should we not exercise the same horse-sense in dealing with public affairs and selecting public servants?

Strange isn't it that our republican friends cannot find a candidate to suit them? With its six million voters it seems to be of the opinion that only one man has a show of being elected, and next to him the only one with a chance is the gentleman who would be, if elected a third term, and whether elected or not would be the man who threw down the party that placed him at the head of the nation for nearly eight years. Strange again isn't it that the party should turn to an ingrate and a renegade and adopt him as its savior?

Oakland has sent out a report that owing to the La-Follette seaman's bill, ships are unable to get sailors, and eighteen vessels are tied up at the wharves on this account. It is also stated that fully 50 per cent of the sailors examined failed to pass. Is this a follow-up of the story sent out sometime ago from the same place and of the same import, which proved to be about 95 per cent adulterated lie?.

The soaring prices of all metals, due to the European war, has given mining a decided boost. M. M. Parks, director of the Oregon Bureau of Mines, has just turned out a statement showing that in 1915 the product of Oregon mines was \$2,000,000, against \$750,000 in 1914. The estimated yield in 1916 is \$3,000,000, and this is probably low judging from the unusual activity in all the mining districts.

Rev. Slaughter on trial at Oroville for alleged misconduct with 15-year-old Gertrude Lamson, compared himself to a flower, in his sermon, Sunday, saying its smell and its fragrance cannot be destroyed even though trampled under foot. So far as the fragrance is concerned it would perhaps be better for the minister if it could for it is of the unpleasant class of odors.

Tom Taggart is at last senator from Indiana, a place he has wanted ever since Sitting Bull went out of business. It is probable Thomas would never have cut the mustard had not Shively died. He will hold the place until the next session of the Indiana legislature, possibly longer, but this is a remote possibility.

Los Angeles' city council has recommended the doing away with the board of moving picture censors, and turning the job over to one commissioner at a salary of \$2,100 a year. Say, wouldn't that be a snap, getting a salary like that for seeing all the movies for nothing, and the bad ones all by your little lonesome?

Congress, whatever it may do towards preparedness, is certainly opposed to a large standing army. Monday Kahn's amendment to the Hay bill making the regular army 220,000 strong was voted down by 183 to 103, another amendment to make it 280,000 was simply howled down before it could be put.

According to the usual acceptance of the term Spring began the first of March, but as fixed astronomically it begins today, as the sun in its northing crosses the equator. The checked suit and flower garden lid are now properly at the top, that is the head pieces are, not the suits.

Rumania is reported as ready to join the allies next May. Judging from her past course she will join the allies when she is absolutely certain they will win, and perhaps by that time they will not let her.

Anyway the ladies patronizing the Salem street cars will all become accomplished in the intricacies of the "two step." They would much prefer a three step for a starter on the cars.



Rippling Rhymes
By Walt Mason
POPULATION
Prune Center is a hustling town. For liveliness it has renown. The leading boosters stand and crow, "Just watch our population grow!" All new arrivals have their charms; they're welcomed there with open arms. All sorts of cheap and worthless lads, the loafers who, for vagrant ways, have drawn ten dollars or ten days, who'll work the town for grub and coal—just as they swell the census roll, they're welcomed with a hip-hooray, and told to camp right down and stay. If I were owner of a town, and wished to give it high renown, I'd see that no one settled there, without a record clean and fair. I'd have a censor in each street, the new-arriving gents to meet, and he would warn the worthless skate to turn around and pull his freight. You don't invite the worthless dub to seek your home and eat your grub. Then why invite him to your town, and beg that he will settle down?

MINISTER LIKENS HIMSELF TO FLOWER

Slaughter Case Nears End-- Daughter Testifies In Her Father's Favor

Oroville, Cal., March 20.—Striking at the story of her former chum Gertrude Lamson, Naomi Slaughter, aged 17, daughter of Rev. Madison Slaughter, testified today that she was in her home on the nights it is alleged her father attacked Gertrude there and that she did not see the Lamson girl there. Miss Slaughter said she left her father alone at home one night and took the family automobile to the railroad station to meet friends, at the time it was alleged the pastor and Gertrude were riding in the machine. Miss Slaughter testified she left home at 10:35 o'clock on that night. Prosecution attorneys asserted they would prove she was not in the automobile, but was with young friends in the park at that time. High water this morning caused several jurors to be late in arriving, and delayed the start of the trial's third week.

Oroville, Cal., March 20.—With the Rev. Madison Slaughter's "alibi defense" drawing near a close, the prosecution today prepared a new corps of witnesses for the state's rebuttal in the pastor's trial on charge of assaulting Gertrude Lamson, fifteen years old.

District Attorney Leonard said today he was confident that Slaughter's alibi would be overthrown. Slaughter's lawyers are equally confident that these alibis will result in a verdict of acquittal.

In his Sunday sermon Slaughter likened himself to a flower which could be crushed and trampled under foot, while its soul could not be destroyed nor its fragrance diminished. To illustrate this point, he tore a bright red rose from his button hole and stamped on it.

Hugging Girl Employs Not Pleasure, Just Habit

Portland, Or., Mar. 21.—Hugging his girl employee was just a habit with A. D. Frost, state manager of a string of stores, according to his own evidence on record in municipal court today. Frost was fined \$10 on the technical charge of assault and battery on two pretty stenographers. He and his wife both admitted that he had a habit of petting and fondling the girls who worked for him. The principal complainant was a girl graduate of Whitman College who applied to him for a position as stenographer. "He put his arms around me and kissed me three times," testified the girl. "Then I fainted."

Two Women Wanted for Counterfeiting

San Francisco, Mar. 21.—Federal secret service agents hunted two women today in connection with their probe of an alleged coastwise counterfeiting conspiracy. The women vanished when six men were arrested in San Francisco and Seattle and a haul money engraving plant been raided. Henry Davis, one of the men caught here, is held on \$2,000 bail charged with manufacturing 104 counterfeit federal reserve bank notes. Charles J. Grooms is held on the same bond, accused of having ten of the notes in his possession.

ANOTHER WARRIOR TALKS

Pasadena, Cal., Mar. 21.—James R. Garfield, secretary of the interior under President Roosevelt and son of the late President Garfield, strongly advocated preparedness today. "In America, an invading force could go through the country from end to end and meet no effective opposition, except in a few places," he told an assembly at the Throop College of Technology. "The volunteer system is worse than useless. Why should one man volunteer and another stay at home? Every man should know how to take care of himself in the field and be an intelligent unit in an army."

PUMPED HIM OUT

Venice, Cal., Mar. 21.—After being rushed to a hospital, his stomach pumped out and every precaution against poisoning taken, W. C. Jansen today told physicians he had merely suffered from a little fainting spell.

TRY JOURNAL WANT ADS.

Keep the Stomach Right

and when it shows any signs of distress, give help at once.

HOSTETTER'S Stomach Bitters

has been found very helpful as a tonic and appetizer. Try it.

The Fallacy of Paraffine Base: Eastern oil manufacturers have long extolled the superior virtues of paraffine-base motor oils. But Pacific Coast motorists have proved that Zerolene, made from selected California crude, asphalt-base, gave best results. Their experience is now supported by the testimony of international experts. Lieut. Bryan stated before the Am. Soc. of Naval Engineers: "Oils made from the asphalt-base crudes have shown themselves better adapted to motor cylinders, as far as their carbon-forming proclivities are concerned, than are paraffine-base Pennsylvania oils." Zerolene received highest competitive awards, San Francisco and San Diego Expositions. Dealers everywhere and at service stations and agencies of the Standard Oil Company.

ZEROLENE

the Standard Oil for Motor Cars

Mrs. Clayburg Roasts Seattle Sheriff Hodge

Los Angeles, Cal., Mar. 21.—Laughing from the passive attitude she has persistently maintained throughout the preliminary phases of the Seattle "badger" case, Mrs. Isabel Clayburg came out today with a red hot attack on the Seattle sheriff, seeking her extradition. "Sheriff Hodge, who I understand is an avowed candidate for governor of Washington is attempting to make political capital out of me," she declared. "He is attempting to wreak vengeance on members of the Rainier club of Seattle. If he has one bit of evidence of a compromising position with any man, I will drop my extradition fight and return north. He has no picture; he has no evidence." Mrs. Clayburg's habeas corpus hearing will come up in Federal Judge Trippett's court tomorrow.

Elastic rubber jardiniere may now be had, which will accommodate a flower pot of any size.

PUT CREAM IN NOSE AND STOP CATARRH

Tells How to Open Clogged Nostrils and End Head-Colds.

You feel fine in a few moments. Your cold in head or catarrh will be gone. Your clogged nostrils will open. The air passages of your head will clear and you can breathe freely. No more dullness, headache; no yawning, snuffing, mucous discharges or dryness; no struggling for breath at night.

Tell your druggist you want a small bottle of Ely's Cream Balm. Apply a little of this fragrant, antiseptic cream in your nostrils, let it penetrate through every air passage of the head; soothe and heal the swollen, inflamed mucous membrane, and relief comes instantly. It is just what every cold and catarrh sufferer needs. Don't stay stuffed-up and miserable.

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