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EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES

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THE RENAISSANCE OF A COW TOWN

Umatilla, the famous old town on the Columbia where in early days the freight wagon and pack mule received their loads for the mining, sheep and cattle camps, which in the earlier days were about the only things in the way of settlement in the far Inland Empire, has within the past few days undergone a radical change in its city government. The town where in its palmiest days a woman was as scarce an article as a Bible, has become the first gynococracy in the United States. At the last election the mayor and all councilmen elected were women, but there are two hold-over councilmen who being "mere men" have been not only told but shown, that they are to have but little to say regarding the conducting of the city's affairs. The mayor by the way had her husband as an opponent in the election and beat him to a frazzle.

The new mayor, Mrs. Laura J. Starcher, is true to name for she put starch in her brief message, which she, by the way, asked one of the male hold-overs to read, and then she appointed her committees, all of which are composed entirely of women. The "mere male" was not given a look in and the council can run its business as well without as with them. All they have to do is to do what they are told and the new regime being mostly married women are capable of telling them just what that is.

As a beginning in economy the mayor refused to appoint a marshal, saying the city had no use for such an animal and that his salary would help pay for better street lights which she asserted the city would soon have as she would see the company furnishing the lights got busy, and kept that way.

Considerable interest has been awakened in the new departure and the result of a real women's government will be closely watched. As a prelude to the kind of administration the city is to have the mayor remarked: "If I did not believe every woman in this council was as competent as any man ever sat in it, I would resign right now." From which, and her handling of the situation from the start, it is fair to presume that Mrs. Starcher, and no one else will be the mayor.

REPORT GIVES ROADS AWAY

The report of the Public Service Commission to the governor, filed Tuesday, shows more clearly than any other one thing the discrimination against Oregon in the way of furnishing cars for shippers. This report shows that in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1914, the net operating revenues of railroads in the state were \$6,901,604. For the year 1915 the operating revenues were \$5,675,796, and for the year 1916 ending June 30, they were \$5,329,594. The reason of the decrease was largely due to the fact that the railroads did not furnish cars to do the business of the state. The year 1916 furnished the roads much more business than they could handle, and yet the receipts were less by \$1,572,110 than in 1914, when, as is well known, business was slack. The greater revenue was received because though business was dull there were cars enough to take care of all of it. Instead of being an increase, as there should have been, there was a falling off of practically 25 per cent of the net revenues. This shows that Oregon was not given her share of the cars and that they were used in other states at Oregon's expense.

Compared to a year ago bread is up 50 per cent; potatoes 50 to 60 per cent; pork, 40 per cent; beef, 35 to 60 per cent; onions 300 per cent; cabbage, 25 per cent; eggs, 20 per cent; butter, 50 per cent; vegetables, generally, from 10 to 40 per cent, and all the foodstuffs used by the average American citizen are on the same high plane. In clothing it is the same and shoes are, so far as poor folks are concerned, almost at a prohibitive price. To the wage earner facing a reduction of pay the outlook is far from encouraging.

"To him that hath shall be given." New York which has now more gold than it knows what to do with, Monday received \$25,000,000 more, it coming from Halifax.

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SAVINGS DEPARTMENT

REDUCING THE WRONG SALARIES

Some weeks ago when the tax limitation law was being discussed and talk of retrenchment and reform was in the air, the Capital Journal made the prophecy that the first place the legislature would discover where a saving could be made would be with the janitors, and those who took care of the state house lawns, then the stenographers and clerks and all others whose salaries were the lowest paid by the state.

The legislature was not six hours old before this source of tremendous saving for the state was discovered, and a proposition made to cut the salaries of this class. True, the taxpayers are demanding economy, but they are not asking that any be forced to work at wages that will hardly support them. Throughout the United States every big corporation has granted its employes an increase of salary on account of the high cost of living, and yet the great corporation of the State of Oregon, one of the greatest states in the union, is deliberately proposing to reduce salaries of its lowest paid employes at a time when the dollar it pays them is not worth, in purchasing power what 75 cents were worth a year or two ago. It is the purchasing power of a wage that makes it large or small.

There is not an industry in the state that is not getting more for its products than it did a year ago. The farmers are getting nearly double for their wheat, and vegetables are way yonder in price. Beef is the highest ever known and one involuntarily lifts his hat to the fat hog that has doubled in value since the war. An employe getting \$1,000 a year now is no better paid than he or she would have been a year ago on \$750.

These state employes, if their pay is reduced, will be in the condition of the college professor who went to the bank to cash his monthly check. The cashier paid him in one dollar bills. The professor looked at them, turned them over with his finger and finally put on his glasses to give them a closer inspection.

"What's the matter professor?" asked the cashier. Do you think there are microbes on them?"

"No, no indeed," was the mournful reply, "No microbe could live on my salary."

Yet this is where economy is supposed to begin.

There is a proposition to do away with, or merge two or three commissions, but it is noted so far that with the new clerks and assistants said to be required, in the merging plans, there will be little if any saving only a different lot of employes will draw the salaries.

Economy is commendable but it wants to be real economy, not a farcical one. If the legislature must reduce salaries let it seek to make the reductions elsewhere than from the lowest paid employes who at the best, can no more than meet the expense of living.

President Wilson told certain suffragettes Monday that he was leader of a party that had not indorsed suffrage. He might have added that the suffrage or rather the women's party had not indorsed him but had openly tried to defeat him because he refused to go further than his party in the way of making the suffrage question a national one. The republican and democratic platforms were identical in their treatment of the suffrage question, both stating it was a matter for each state to decide for itself. The simple truth is that suffrage has had its hardest blow from the so-called women's party. Instead of coming west to learn how the women of the west had won they started a campaign with a party of their own, which by its action caused a feeling that it would be unsafe to trust the bunch with the ballot. Their action set national suffrage back for years and the present move is pushing it still further back. They call it getting in the limelight and advertising, and it is. Bringing the boycott and the strike methods into their movement has hurt the cause, and if kept up will make it an impossibility in the next fifty years.

It is stated the prohibition bill being drafted will not contain a search and seizure clause. Some of the more rabid are desirous of having this made a feature of the bill but the conservative element is against it, and it is not probable that it will be in the bill. Search of one's property on suspicion is repulsive to most Americans and would make the bill, which otherwise will be accepted gracefully, if not willingly, by all, offensive to a large minority at least and would tend to make the law that much harder to enforce.

The suffragettes have picketed the white house, twelve of them beginning duty Wednesday morning. It is stated there will be three thousand of them on duty by inauguration day. They carry a banner with the inscription: "Mr. President, what will you do for woman suffrage." How they expect to accomplish anything by the movement is too deep for the mentality of what the mayor of Umatilla calls "mere man."

Commencing at noon Thursday Polk and Marion county severed, temporarily, their friendly relations. They had no quarrel, but circumstances over which they have no control caused the estrangement. When the railroad bridge has been planked the old friendly relations will be resumed. In the meanwhile visitors can cross every half hour on the special car put on by the railroad company; for the modest sum of a nickel.

A discouraging and disreputable car shortage existing while the legislature is in session might suggest something to some legislator.

THE WHOLE BODY NEEDS PURE BLOOD

The bones, the muscles, and all the organs of the body depend for their strength and tone and healthy action on pure blood.

If the blood is very impure, the bones become diseased; the muscles become enfeebled, the step loses its elasticity, and there is inability to perform the usual amount of labor. The skin loses its clearness, and pimples, blotches and other eruptions appear.

Hood's Sarsaparilla makes pure blood. It is positively unequalled in the treatment of scrofula and other humors, catarrh, rheumatism, dyspepsia, loss of appetite, that tired feeling. Be sure to get Hood's and get it today. All druggists.

Turks Report British Cruiser Destroyed By Gunfire in Recent Fight

Berlin, via Sayville wireless, Jan. 12.—Destruction of a British cruiser of the Juno type by a direct hit of Turkish gunfire, was reported in the Turkish official report received here today. The ship was hit in the Port of Meyas.

The statement said the "surprise gunfire" by which the cruiser was sunk had also broken the mast of a torpedo boat and damaged a patrol boat.

The statement, which was dated January 11, said:

"On the Caucasian front we opened a surprise fire against hostile ships in the Port of Meyas. We destroyed by direct hit a British cruiser of the Juno type, the cruiser having no time in which to open fire. The wreck of the cruiser is still burning.

"A torpedo boat escaped after one must have been broken by fire, while a patrol boat of unknown nationality received a direct hit, but escaped southward heavily damaged."

Pennsylvania has \$60,000,000 for its legislature to spend. What more could a legislature ask?

Some Little stories and Gossip of the Legislature

Senator Olsen's joint resolution calling for a committee to be appointed to draw up measures of law reform was read in the house yesterday and referred to the committee on judiciary. It provides for a committee of seven, the members of which are to be one supreme judge, one business man and five lawyers. The aim of the resolution is to effect a reform in the judiciary department of the state.

Publication of the tax lists in the newspapers of the state may be eliminated if the bill recommended by the county clerks and commissioners gets by the legislature. Yesterday the Multnomah delegates met and discussed the plan and all were in favor of it except Representatives Kubli and Burton. Instead of notifying the delinquent tax payer by means of the newspaper, it is proposed to notify by means of a postal card. Newspaper publishers are opposing the measure.

Because borrowers of money from the state school fund sometimes suffer the loss of their property on account of being unable to complete payments on the loan, a bill was introduced yesterday in the house by Representative Bean, of Lane county, providing that when 60 per cent of the loan was paid the borrower took title to the land and gave a mortgage on the remainder.

Representative Kubli, chairman of the ways and means committee, proposes to eliminate the cost of publishing the candidates' pamphlets from the expense of state elections. This would eliminate the sum of \$8,752.25 from election expenses on the part of the state. The total cost of publishing the pamphlets amounts to \$11,787.25, of which the candidates pay approximately \$3,035. In addition to this reduction in expenses, Representative Kubli is in favor of shortening the ballot, and arranging it so that either a party ticket or a split ticket can be voted.

Life in the small towns will be made

easier if the bill introduced in the house by Representative Dedman, of Clatsop, gets by. His measure provides for the incorporation of rural communities as municipalities for securing water supply for domestic use. The bill defines the kind of a petition that is required in initiating the incorporation, the limits of the district, and the number of signers. Under its provisions 16 per cent of the registered voters must sign the petition. On submission of this petition the county court is required to order a special election, and if the measure bonds are to be issued at six per cent.

The bone dry bill prepared by the Union Dry committee and Oswald West, ex-governor of Oregon, is in the hands of the committee on alcoholic traffic, of which Dr. J. E. Anderson is chairman. The bill is said to be comprehensive and to include every phase of the liquor traffic.

Legislators are invited to attend the meeting of the Polk-Yamhill-Marion Medical society, which will hold a session at the state hospital for the insane, when a discussion of "Sterilization of the Urfur," by Dr. R. E. L. Steiner, will be delivered. The meeting is scheduled for 8 o'clock. Dr. L. F. Griffith, also of the state hospital, will talk on "Prevalence, Prevention and Possible Cure of Syphilis." A successor to Dr. H. J. Clements, secretary, will probably be chosen, as the doctor wishes to retire.

The Clackamas county court, through the Commercial club of Oregon-City, has sent a telegram to the state highway commission, stating that the county has appropriated money for the improvement of the Pacific highway in Clackamas and that aid of the state is requested. The county court of Clackamas county was in Salem yesterday and asked a hearing, the date for which was set for Monday. The fact that the state highway commission may be abolished will probably act to defer the request.

According to an opinion by Attorney General Brown, no further action by the legislature is required to make effective the single item veto amendment to the constitution, which was passed at the November election. This measure provides that the governor can veto any single item in an appropriation bill without killing the whole bill. The attorney general held, however, that to prevent any uncertainty it would be a wise thing for the legislature to declare the procedure of the veto. With this axe in his hands the governor can lop off any unnecessary appropriations he may think fit.

GERMAN CONSUL BOPP. Washington, Jan. 12.—The state department may ask suspension of German Consul Bopp, San Francisco, pending appeal of his case for conspiracy to a higher court, it was officially indicated at the state department today. The department, however, is not inclined to cancel his exequatur while the appeal is pending.

Secretary Lansing has the case officially before him, but has taken no direct steps in it yet. Voluntary removal of Bopp from his position by the government would close the case satisfactorily from a diplomatic standpoint. There were no indications however, that this is contemplated at present. The most probable step will be the request for his suspension from duty.

If Buffalo Bill's fame has one foundation stone sadder than another it is that at a critical period he made the youth of our land forget all about Jesse James. Young America must have a hero. Thanks be, if he can have the right sort.



WINTER

We always tire of winter before it's had its fling, and yearningly begin to extol the charms of spring. We roast the wintry rigors in wild, impassioned terms, and long for spring and chiggers, and flies and bugs and germs. And yet the winter weather is good for mortal man, and we should get together, and boost it while we can. The arctic blast's a hummer, but while it roars and rolls, the pests of spring and summer are dead or in their holes. Hail, storm that swats us critters, with many a lusty biff! You send old blood cavorting through every palsied vein. Hail, blizzard that is snorting across the icy plain! You send old blood cavorting through every palsied vein. With zst I do my labors, when knee deep in the snows; I go and whip my neighbors, and pull a peeler's nose. The springtime finds me slouchy, too indolent to smile, and I am gruff and grouchy, and full of prunes and bile. But when the frosted breezes athwart my sideboards blow, I shake off all diseases, and every grouch and woe. I feel as gay and chipper as when I was sixteen, and from the old tin dipper I quaff my gasoline.



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MILDRED BECOMES RECKLESS

CHAPTER CXX

Why is it that so often we do things that we would give worlds if we had not done? I thought and thought of what Kate Jordan had told me, and finally I recklessly made up my mind to find out how much more she knew. Unless I told Clifford that I knew Mabel Horton had been in Chicago with him, and asked him to explain things seemingly unexplainable to me, I was sure he would never mention the fact of her visit to me. And even after the years we had spent together, I feared to question Clifford, feared to rouse his anger.

One afternoon I dressed and went out, ostensibly to shop, but instead of going to the stores I found myself subconsciously turning toward Kate Jordan's home. Unfortunately she was in. "I am delighted to see you, Mrs. Hammond," she greeted, "do take off your things and spend the afternoon."

"Oh, that is impossible! I only came to call," I stammered.

"You have come for something and I am going to find out what." "Have you seen Mrs. Horton lately?" I asked, as nonchalantly as I could. "Why, yes. I played bridge there yesterday afternoon; just the three of us, Lola Gardner, Mrs. Horton and me—and the dummy. Really, three handed bridge is lots of fun."

"I think so, too," I replied absently, wondering what it should say next. Then, "Mrs. Gardner is lovely, isn't she?" I ventured. "Do you think so? I admire Mabel Horton's style much more. Lola is so dark; then her everlasting vivacity gets on my nerves. Mabel is more soothing—she is a regular man's woman."

"What do you mean by 'man's woman'?" "Oh, Mabel never worries a man! She just flatters and makes them comfortable." "Just how does she make them so comfortable? She can only see them socially," I ventured, hoping Kate Jordan would rise to my bait. She did in a measure.

"Oh, don't fool yourself! Mabel is a great favorite with all the men. If I didn't watch Tom as closely as I do I would be as bad as the rest; but I will give him no chance. She can get up her little chaffing dish suppers before her grate fire for other women's husbands, but not for mine."

"That must be cozy," I replied, making a mental note that I would try the same tactics. "What else does she do that makes her so attractive?" Mildred is Enlightened "Oh, I don't know that I can tell you! But she is always ready for anything anyone proposes, isn't a bit of a prude. If a man does something he shouldn't, she doesn't raise him over the coals, but sympathizes with him because his wife does."