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Editorial Page of The Capital Journal

WEDNESDAY EVENING
January 29, 1919

Published Every Evening Except Sunday, Salem, Oregon.

Address All Communications To

The Daily Capital Journal

SALEM 136 S. Commercial St. OREGON

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Daily, by Carrier, per year.....$5.00 Per Month.....45c
Daily by Mail, per year.....$3.00 Per Month.....35c

FULL LEASED WIRE TELEGRAPH REPORT

FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES
W. D. Ward, New York, Tribune Building.
W. H. Stockwell, Chicago, People's Gas Building

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THE DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL
Is the only newspaper in Salem whose circulation is guaranteed by the Audit Bureau Of Circulations

DELINQUENT TAX SHARKS PROSPER.

The publication of the delinquent tax list was discontinued becuase a majority of the voters of Oregon, mostly in Portland, followed the advice of the Oregon Journal and played into the hands of the tax lien speculators and petty grafters whose operations were hampered by full publicity.

Already belated taxpayers, some whose property was not properly listed, and others who purchased within the past two years are paying the penalty. They are finding out that there are extremely heavy penalties attached to their delinquent taxes and that their titles are being mixed and endangered.

In this state it is fully two years after the assessment is made that taxes become delinquent. In this interval numerous changes in interest take place. This makes the attempted notification by mail a farce, since in so many instances the person whose name and address appears on the assessment roll has no interest whatever in the property or the taxes upon it.

More than likely after the taxpayers have suffered from the operations of the grafters and sharks for two years, they will be ready to pass a bill re-instating the publication of the delinquent tax list, thus returning to the safe, sane and honest methods of publicity which is the due of all property owners before their realty is sold for taxes. But in the meantime serious inconvenience and many burdensome penalties will have been suffered by the taxpayers and land titles will in many cases, be hopelessly muddled.

SEVEN THOUSAND BLIND MEN.

About 7,000 soldiers of the Allied armies were rendered permanently blind by the war. One-fourth as many more may be unable to respond to treatment now being given to prevent the same catastrophe for them.

In former years instead of permanently blind, we should have said "hopelessly blind," and these seven thousand men would have become mostly dependents, pitied, enslaved by a mistaken kindness. But in these days "help the blind" does not mean a tin cup for pennies and a black and tan pup for a guide. It means "teach the blind!" Teach them the amazing range of subjects for which their infirmity fits them rather than disqualifies them.

It would be hard to find a more interesting or encouraging talk on the subject than an address to the blinded soldiers by King George of England, which has been printed in raised letters so it can be easily read by the men who cannot see. He says in part:

"If there is one thing which I can urge upon you, it is not to despair. The time has gone by when a blind man was a being without resources, incapable of providing for himself or enjoying life. Hundreds of our soldiers who lost their sight in this war have already, thanks to their strength of soul, their patience, and assisted by professional education, learned to resume their former occupations."

The marvelous part of it is that the "professional" education has been given since the men were blinded, and means intensive education to fit the man to do, without his eyes, what he did before he lost his sight.

Not only to the blinded soldier, but to all who are sightless, this message is one of hope and inspiration. The blind are to be led by a way that they knew not. Begging, basketry and piano-tuning are no longer the limits which circumscribe the blind man. But just like everybody who ever accomplishes anything, he must have "strength of soul and patience." For his helpers can give him only the opportunity; his use of it depends on himself.

The new consolidation bill is before the legislature. It provides for the election of the governor by the people and for the appointment of all other officials by the governor. We are very much disappointed that the bill is really a compromise, in that the people are allowed to have some rights. How much safer it would be to have the commission drawing the bill name the governor themselves, thus avoiding any fool action on the part of the voters! Or the measure might have provided that the professor of the science of government who was imported from the East last year to frame a new consolidated government for Oregon should be named as governor and provision made for the hereditary transmission of the office with all its dictatorial powers. The bill as it was introduced is only a make-shift; it gives the common people too much in allowing them to elect the czar, who still retains the modest title of governor.

Henry L. Pittock, publisher of the Oregonian, is dead at an advanced age, and with his passing Oregon loses one of its finest pioneer characters. No doubt the brilliant Harvey Scott won more fame for his work upon the Oregonian, but it was Mr. Pittock who employed him to write editorials, and it was his business ability and grim determination in trying times that carried the Oregonian through its pioneer stages to the success it later achieved as a newspaper. Mr. Pittock never sought public attention in any form and as a plain, unassuming man, of pleasing, amiable disposition, he endeared himself to those who were privileged to be his friends. His death is a distinct loss to the entire Northwest in the development of which he was an important factor in a very quiet way.

The annual meeting of the Commercial club tonight should be generally attended by members of the organization. There is great work to be done this year and the plans should be laid which will render effective the efforts of the club to work for a Greater Salem.

The superintendent of West Point seems to think a little hazing is good for the cadets. A freshman in the school of experience out in the cold woorld generally gets hazed, and profits by it.

RIPPLING RHYMES

By Walt Mason

AMBITION.

Ambition's needed in your game if you would win success or fame. The gent without it seems a clod, content his treadmill way to plod, while men who have the splendid spur fill all the air with smoke and fur. Ambition, when it's safe and sane, controlled by wisdom's curb and rein, is necessary to the guy who hopes to reach the places high. But if you say, "I'll never stop until I reach the gleaming top, regardless always of the rights of other hopeful striving wights," perhaps you'll reach the top and then discover you're abhorred of men. I'd build mud fences all my days before I'd tread the higher ways, and hear some delegates exclaim, "He never played an honest game. To push himself to higher rank he'd rob his granny's savings bank. To gai na foot on other men, he'd swipe his mother's setting hen. His thoughts are always of himself; to gain renown or gather pelf he'd push a cripple from the road, or touch a poet for his ode." In Holland there's a lonely skate who hoped to be supremely great; the rights of men he laughed to scorn, and trod upon the nearest corn. What mattered it if legions died, so he increase dhis pomp and pride? And now he sits in shadows gray, and swats cockroaches all the day. His fate's a lesson to us all, the fat, the lean, the short, the tall.

THE WIFE

By Jane Phelps.

RUTH PLANS A SURPRISE FOR BRIAN.

CHAPTER CXLIX.

The next morning Brian was obliged to go down town to attend to some matters having to do with his discharge from the army. So Ruth went as far as the new office with him.

"The rug and shades will be there early, and I want to see to the hanging of the shades," she had made her excuse when he told her she was foolish to go out so early, "now that you don't have to," he had added.

But she had insisted. Then they agreed to meet at a little restaurant near the new office for luncheon.

"You'll want to see how the rug looks," Ruth explained when she planned to meet him.

"All right, boss! I'll be there," had been Brian's happy answer, as he kissed her, and then they both kissed the baby who was so like his father.

What a busy morning Ruth had. She saw the woman had cleaned very thoroughly. The windows had been washed and the bright morning sun shone through them, making long, golden fingers on the new rug, lighting up its somber shades (which Ruth considered appropriate for the office).

After seeing that the shades were all right as to color and that the man knew his business, she left him hanging them and made a visit to the bank where she kept her savings. She drew out quite a large sum, then made her way to a store dealing in office furniture. She bought a solid, substantial desk, a half dozen leather chairs, a long table, for which she ordered a glass top, and several sections of the book cases she had in mind. The clerk tried to sell her a couch to match the chairs. She was strongly tempted to buy it until she remembered Brian's inclination to take things easy.

"He'll work better if he has no place to lop down," she said to herself as she declined to buy it.

The little waiting room must also be made attractive. So she purchased comfortable chairs and a rug for that as well as a small table. She would see that some magazines were always kept upon it for waiting clients to read. Ruth had wonderful faith that those clients would soon be forthcoming. Brian Hackett was not the unknown struggling barrister he had been before the war. He was known as that "brave Lieutenant Hackett" whom his country had thought worthy of their highest praise. And, business woman that she was, she would turn all this to account in his after-the-war struggle for business success.

She intrigued the clerk to send the things at once on a special wagon. She herselef hurried back to the office so that she would be there when they came. The clerk did not disappoint her. He had in some psychological way caught a little of Ruth's enthusiasm and almost at the minute he had promised, the furniture appeared.

Ruth never had spent a happier morning. She dusted and arranged the books. They looked very well indeed in their bravely new cases. In fact the books themselves looked almost new. Brian's practice had not required that he use them often, and he had been too indolent to study—as Ruth had urged—not feeling the need.

She arranged and re-arranged the furniture until she had it placed to the best advantage. Then she cleaned up in the little wash room opening out of the waiting room, and went to meet Brian.

"You look as if you had been up to mischief," he remarked after they had ordered their luncheon. "Your eyes shine like stars."

"What mischief would an old married woman like me be apt to get into?"

"I'll wager there's something. I never saw you look prettier, or more as if you had some wonderful secret. No one has died and left us a million or two, have they?"

"No, dear. You are going to make all the millions we have, yourself. I expect you WILL make them, too."

"Don't expect too much or you will be horribly disappointed. If I can keep you and the kid in that apartment and give us all enough to eat and wear, it is all I ask. Sometimes I am afraid I shall not be able even to do that much."

"Oh, ye of little faith," Ruth quoted. "Don't dare question my husband's ability, Brian Hackett! He's going to be one of the rising young lawyers of the city. That's how they express it, isn't it?"

So, laughing and chatting, as happy young people do, they finished their luncheon.

"Whither away now?" Brian asked as they reached the street.

"Let's go to the office and see if the shades are hung."

Nothing loath to again view the place where he was soon to spend his days, Brian acquiesced, and they walked to the office.

(Tomorrow—Ruth Tells Brian Her Wonderful Secret).

Open Forum

Salem, Jan. 29, 1919.

To the Members of the Legislature:

A few years ago, a railroad survey was made on the south side of the Tualatin river, from Tualatin to Hillsboro, a distance of approximately 18 miles. But, for some reason, the railroad was never built, and I believe it never will be, as hard surfaced roads and automobiles and trucks will be the means of transportation.

The soil in townships 1, 2 and 3, S., range 2 W, of the Willamette Meridian is as good as any found in Oregon, and the principal industry is dairying; but, for four months of the year, four horses would have to be hitched to a wagon in order to haul one ton of milk over its roads, and to haul lumber wood is out of the question.. Some farms are unmercifully neglected, and farmers are getting discouraged on account of the lack of transportation.

And now, Honorable Members of the Legislature, as you are about to draft a bonding bill for several millions for road purposes, I would suggest that the part of townships 1, 2 and 3 S., range 2 W. of the Willamette Meridian, that lies south of the Tualatin river and joins Yamhill county on the top of the Chehalem mountains, be granted an appropriation of the money received from auto taxes, bond issues or other money received from said Townships 1, 2 and 3 S., range 2 W. of the Willamette Meridian for road purposes.

For myself, will say I own 95 acres in township 2, and, if my share should be $10 per acre, I would consider it a good investment.

At present, I am working in a rock quarry for Washington county in township 2, running a tunnel, and we intend to tear loose several thousand yards in one blast, but the special taxes and appropriation from the county is only a drop in the bucket, as we have to work on too small a scale.

Respectfully yours,
E. WENSTROM,
President, Washington County National Farm Loan Association.

SENATE BILLS.

S. B. 95. By Thomas and Lachmund. Providing that all bids for the construction of public highways shall be based on specifications prepared and filed previous to the issuance of a call for bids.

S. B. 96. By Judiciary committee. Conferring upon the chief justice of the supreme court power to assign circuit judges to duty in various counties to promote the speedy transaction of business.

S. B. 97. By Judiciary committee. Making it unlawful for any person to solicit personal injury business.

S. B. 98. By Shanks. Eliminating the old procedure of remonstrances against the construction of county highways.

S. B. 99. By Smith of Coos. Providing method for counties to surrender cities or towns jurisdiction over certain county roads.

SOME THINGS TO SEE.

It certainly was royal fun
To see the kaiser on the sun;
And then again it pleased us much
To see ex-kaiser with the Dutch.
I should not worry, nor should you
To see ex-kaiser have the flu;
'Tis far more fun than any "lark"
To see ex-kaiser "toe the mark,"
To cover face with crime all smeared
To see ex-kaiser growing beard.
When nations gather to make good
To see ex-kaiser "sawing wood."
We wait with longing, fervent hope
To see ex-kaiser stretch the rope.
'Twould be rare sport could we be there
To see him dangle in the air
As warning to nations unfair
To leave him always dangling there,
That those who hold for fighting zones
Might ever hear his clanking bones;
The clanking should resound so far
'Twould warn them never more to war.
'Twill be by all men understood
What's left of bud is doing good.

Jan. 26, 1919. H. E. B.

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JOHNSON SPLITS WITH

(Continued from page one)

trine. I will not for one instant concede that it is the duty of this republic to maintain order in a Jugo-Slav, Czecho-Slovak or any other new state. I am opposed to American boys policing Europe and quelling riots in every new nation's backyard.

"Keep in mind that the establishment and maintenance in part of these peoples must be paid for by our already overburdened taxpayers. But aside from the material considerations, I would not shed the blood of American boys in the internal disturbances of an Esthonia, Livonia or Courland.

"Our help to 16 nations which would be created 'in establishing themselves with ordered governments' must be the aid which our arms would give to one faction or another in these new states and I am not ready to shed American blood for any factions of any foreign state, or in maintaining the government in any Baltic province.

"America Wants Peace"

"America wants peace. Let us have peace and get out of Europe."

Taking up President Wilson's fourteen peace terms, Johnson declared the first, calling for "open covenants of peace, openly arrived at," has been "distorted and misunderstood."

"Anyone really ought to understand that when we say open covenants of peace openly arrived at, we mean secret covenants secretly arrived at," said Johnson.

He assailed the method of handing out "homeopathic doses" of peace conference news to the American people and charged that in spite of assurances to the contrary the news from Paris is being censored.

Of point two, freedom of the seas, he said.

"It has been lost for a considerable period in historical mystery and rests in oblivion, with the unrealized dreams of the Akound of Swat and the Maharajah of Burtania.

"Peace point three, for the removal of economic barriers, four for the reduction of national armaments, and five, for the impartial adjustment of all colonial claims, apparently have been submerged in weightier questions and no longer agitate the over burdened minds of statesmen. The sixth peace point regarding Russia, I will mention hereafter.

"All of the other peace points, with the exception of the league of nations, deal with territorial adjustments. Now, the difficulty of the president in interpreting his peace points as to teritorial acquisitions is that long ago, England, France and Italy reached their conclusions and the president is up against the contracts, signed, sealed, and delivered and in the pockets of the allies.

Treaties Quite Definite

"The secret treaties which were executed before our entrance into the war were quite definite in form and apportioned territories to the three great belligerents and also to Russia. These secret treaties with the elimination of Russia, I feel sure, are deemed effective and binding; nor do I doubt that substantially the territory they embrace will be divided in accordance with their provisions."

Taking up the Russian situation, Johnson demanded immediate return of American soldiers. He declared this government's policy of "criminal intervention has lengthened the life of the bolsheviki and is resulting in starving, not the bolsheviki leaders, but the women and children of Russia, for whom this and the allied governments profess love.

"Russia's treatment by the United States and the allies shows that 'our idealistic statements on the rights of self determination have gone into oblivion with the rest," he said.

Declaring he does not defend "in any degree the soviet power of Lenine and Trotsky, Johnson said:

"Why, our dealings with Russia have not only been an exhibition of the crassest stupidity, but have contributed to the woeful tragedy there.

Read Document

Johnson then put into the record a document hitherto unpublished in the United States which was sent to the allies by the soviet government in March, 1918. A favorable answer to this, said Johnson, would have prevented the signing of the Brest-Litovsk treaty and would have kept Russia in line with the allies.

"In this document, the soviet government asked what the allies, particularly the United States would give in the struggle against Germany if the Brest-Litovsk treaty was denounced.

"This communication was received apparently with indignant and contemptuous silence," said Johnson.

"This may have been proper," he said, but pointed out that the United States government had begged New York socialists and anarchists to cable Lenine and Trotsky to refuse the Brest-Litovsk treaty and continue the war.

"If the emergency and the crisis justified the government in using the anarchists of New York to communicate with the anarchists of Petrograd, it would have justified the United States government answering the communication of the soviet government, without recognition of government at all and in encouraging it by its answer to renew the war with Germany" said Johnson.

Cited Examples

Johnson cited examples of allied cooperation with bolsheviki. He said:

"The British and French troops cooperated with bolsheviki troops in keeping order in Petrograd.

That the bolsheviki let George Creels representative use their printing press to run off copies of President Wilson's speeches and appropriated funds of the soviet government for the purpose.

That the allied military missions help train the bolsheviki red army.

Had Protection of Bolsheviki

That the Red Cross mission from America had the full protection of the bolsheviki in Petrograd and Moscow for seven months after Creel's men had fled.

"Why did we enter Russia?" Johnson asked.

"I answer for no very good reason; and we have remained for no reason at all.

"What is our policy toward Russia? I answer we have no policy. We have engaged in a miserable misadventure, stultifying our professions and setting at naught our promises. We have punished no guilty; we have but brought misery and starvation and death to the innocent. We have garnered none of the fruits of the victory of war but suffer the odium and infamy of undeclared warfare. We have sacrificed our own blood to no purpose, and into American homes have brought sorrow and anguish and suffering.

"Bring the American boys home from Russia."

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KENYON TO ASK 'WHIP' OF SURPLUS IN FOODS

Students Of Food Problems Tell Housewives To See Retail Prices Go Down.

Washington, Jan. 29.—A resolution directing the department of agriculture to inform the senate whether there are large surplus supplies of foodstuffs in warehouses, is to be introduced by Senator Kenyon, Iowa. Kenyon announced today he will ask this information to get the real facts.

Packers' representatives ,testifying before congressional committees, have declared there is a large surplus of pork They have hinted also large overstocks of grains and other foods.

Kenyon wants to know where the surpluses are, if they exist, and by whom they are held. If they do exist, he will try to find out, he said today whether they are being held in an effort to keep up the present high prices of food.

Neutral Markets Thrown Open.

While Kenyon was planning to uncover the surplus the neutral markets for pork products were thrown open to the packers by an order of the war trade board issued at the instance of the food administration.

Meanwhile students of the food problem here warned housewives to see that their retailers brought prices down to meet drops in the wholesale markets—already reported by the bureau of markets.

"Retail prices are the hardest things in the world to force down, once they get up," Walter L. Fisher, former secretary of the interior and active in the investigation against the packers, declared today. "A drop of ten cents in the wholesale price of meat for instance, might not be reflected in retail prices for a month."

SAYS NEW AUSTRALIA IS GROWING FROM OLD

President Seitz Declared That Peoples Victory Has Emerged.

By Frank J. Taylor
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Berne, Jan. 28.—(Delayed.)—New Austria is as different from the old Hapsburg Austria as is Poland, Czecho-Slovaks or any of the other nations which have broken away from the former monarchy, President Seitz of the Austrian republic declared in an interview today.

Seitz, who came here to attend the International Labor and Socialist Congress, was raised in a Vienna orphanage. His parentage is unknwn. He educated himself while a tailor's apprentice. Later he became a teacher and finally a figure in politics as a socialist leader.

"We have had a people's victory in Austria, the same as in other parts of the former empire," he said. "The idea seems prevalent in entente circles that Austria is merely the old empire shrunken as the result of separatism. This is not true. We revolted just as the others did.

"Under the principle of self-determination, we wish to join with Germany. A confederation of the elements of the old dual monarchy is impossible."