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THE DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL

Is the only newspaper in Salem whose circulation is guaranteed by the Audit Bureau of Circulations

BEHIND THE PROCESSION.

Congress has endorsed equal suffrage and the various states will no doubt ratify this action in turn, since many of them have already endowed woman with the right to vote. Whether one likes the idea or not equal suffrage in this country is inevitable.

And right here comes some astonishing news. Mrs. Thomas J. Preston, of Princeton, New Jersey, widow of former president Grover Cleveland, has been elected first vice-president of the state association opposed to suffrage for women. Mrs. Garrett A. Hobart, widow of the former vice-president, was chosen second vice-president of the association at the same time.

What's the use? It's like the old Johnny Reb who never surrendered when the star of the Confederacy went down in defeat. Reactionary minorities are always in existence, of course, helping to give savor to life perhaps, and in a way enabling the more progressive members of human society to appreciate the distance they have traveled in a generation.

Still, since equal suffrage has arrived, would it not be better for these splendid women to accept the situation and bend their energies toward making it a means of better government, clean, honest and conservatively progressive? The unconquered rebel of the south who went to his grave in a shroud of stars and bars wrote not a line of the glorious history of a united country during the past half century, while the fame of Henry Watterson, Henry W. Grady and other leaders of the New South is an inspiration for all true Americans.

It is after all only a freak of human nature that the New Jersey association illustrates. And one is inevitably tempted to sum it up in the cartoonist's phrase: "But it doesn't mean anything."

And there are some people in this country who think Germany is getting off easier than the Americans because the war at least hasn't brought them prohibition.

RIPPLING RHYMES

By Walt Mason

THIS LIFE.

I hear the grouch complain, "This life's a total loss; we meet with grief and pain, but joys don't come across. Doomed are our fairest planes, our hopes are in the hole; and men are also rans, who never reach their goal." A guy who thinks like this of course finds life a wreck; how can he sample bliss, who says there's none on deck? How can a man be glad, and taste the joyous years, if he makes woe a fad, and lays the dust with tears? Some find this life so gay, with all its glaring faults, they hate to pass away, to rest in boneyard vaults. They know the life to come, devoid of tears and woe, will make this life seem hum, and yet they hate to go. And I am in their class; this world seems full of glee; these days, which swiftly pass, are good enough for me. I am the bully boy who sidesteps useless care; I look around for joy, and find it everywhere. I am the buoyant lad to whom the world seems fine; determined to be glad, I have no use for brine. Is life a tyrant rude? Is life a thing of bliss? It's all your attitude which makes it that or this.

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THOSE EVERLASTING PRICES.

Everytime the impecunious customer begins to nurse a new hope of lower prices, along comes some economic sharp and blasts the tender bud. Most people have thought the cost of living, now so burdensome, would probably go down in a year or two. But Prof. Irving Fisher of Yale, recognized as one of the leading experts of the country, expresses his disinterested judgment that little reduction in general prices may be expected "in the present generation."

He bases his forecast on "the inflation of gold and currency." There is much more money in the country now, and so much more money in all the other countries, that we have what might be called an over-production of cash and credit. Accordingly, money itself is worthless measured by other things, and so it takes a great deal more of it to exchange for other commodities.

Whether anything can be done about it is doubtful. It is really a familiar phenomenon. The purchasing power of money in all countries has been tending downward for centuries. A few pennies would once buy as much food and clothing or shelter or land as a dollar buys now. The movement has not been continuous—it has proceeded jerkily with occasional reversals. But on the whole the tendency is clearly enough marked. The present situation simply registers an unusually big drop in purchasing power, due to sudden multiplication of money volume growing out of war finance, and helped somewhat by the destruction by war of large quantities of wealth other than gold and silver.

If the gold and silver supply hereafter increases more slowly, or if some "absolute value of standard" is adopted instead of the present fluctuating gold standard, or if the general supply of wealth is increased more rapidly than the money supply, in the next few years, prices will naturally tend downward again. But for the immediate future, at least, it is well to be reconciled to the present levels, and to try to meet them by a corresponding increase in incomes, and by wiser economy.

Think of the effrontery of a mere governor of the state investigating the affairs of the fish and game commission! Those who understand that the game warden is the most powerful despot in existence since the war shook most of them off their thrones, will not be surprised to learn that the investigation developed nothing new. All there is to the administration of the fish and game affairs of the state is that the officials in charge receive a very large annual income from licenses, that they may spend this as they please and account to nobody, and, furthermore, that they enact their own laws, rules and regulations. This being the case, why should there be an investigation? It would be impossible for men who are a law unto themselves to be guilty of any transgression of the law.

Salem is enjoying a splendid growth and as a consequence the Capital Journal is the biggest and—(we are too modest to say best)—newspaper in the state outside of Portland and has by far the largest audited circulation. And in this connection, it may be stated that the better the town the better its newspaper, or it may be transposed and the newspaper named first. A great many close observers are inclined to think that a town is in a large measure made by its newspapers.

Col. C. E. S. Wood, anarchist, free love apostle and social lion of Portland, told the circuit court of appeals, in arguing Dr. Marie Equi's case, that this country could take its choice "between free speech or bombs." Evidently the long-haired colonel is ambitious to occupy a cell in the same prison that shelters his friend, Marie.

Wonders never cease. A Filipino underwear factory is to be established in Manila. The head of the company is a Filipino. And yet only a few years ago the Filipino's one-piece garment answered all the purposes of underwear and outer raiment alike!

Historical note: In May 1818, the first steamer crossed the Atlantic. In May, 1919, the first airship crossed the Atlantic. (?)

Maybe those Prussians will explain that indemnity as the price they paid for winning the war.

People who won't give the Salvation Army a dollar for its new fund doughnut deserve to eat another.

THE PROMOTER'S WIFE

BY JANE PHELPS

NEIL TELLS BARBARA HIS STORY

At Neil's reply a faintness swept over me. "Take his medicine," he had said. What did he mean? Not that he was guilty of all their charges against him? It could not be that! It could not. But even if it were I was his wife, I loved him, and would stand by him. These incongruous thoughts came to my mind the inventory I had prepared, and the thought that we could give up the house quickly. That it might take time to settle such affairs never occurred to me. That we would make restitution at once and end it, was my thought.

"Poor boy," I repeated, smoothing his hair. "Don't feel so badly dear. You have me and Robert, so our can take us from you."

"I—really Bab—I will stand by me through this!" he clung to my arm sobbing outright.

"Why of course I will! Didn't I marry you for better or worse? Why should I run when the 'worse' comes? No, dear heart, I love you. If you have made mistakes I still love you. Even if you have done—wrong, I love you, and always shall. Now try to get some sleep. But first let me telephone Mr. Frederick and ask him to come here the first thing in the morning. If anyone in the world can and will help us it is he. Then before he comes you must tell me everything about your affairs—your trouble. I can't try to do any-

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thing in the dark. Now go to bed, don't.

Without a word he did as I had asked. And soon fell into a restless sleep. But I lay awake all the long night through, trying to pierce the future, planning to make him happy, and to help him rehabilitate himself, socially and financially. I was not foolish enough to want him to lay down and accept what seemed to be the inevitable. Even as I began I knew his ambitious spirit too well to think for a moment he would be satisfied to give up the struggle. If only I might help direct him into other, and more elevating channels. He was still so young. Surely his life need not be a failure because of this mistake.

When he awoke he looked unrefreshed, unrefreshed. His sleep had done him little good. After breakfast we went into the library, talking the Express-Tribune with us. There on the first page was our story—part of it, softened perhaps by the kind reporter, but starkly hideous just the same. It even spoke of arrest, as a possibility.

"Now tell me," I took the paper from him and laid it on the table. "Please tell me all, Neil. It will make no difference in my feeling for you, and perhaps I can help if I know."

It was a long and painful story to which I listened that morning. A story of ambition so inordinate that it caused the loss of all perspective—even as regarded right and wrong. There was one ray of hope in the story and that was the faith Neil had pinned upon the men who had made him their agent—eastern agents in disposing of mines when no mines existed, of shares in oil companies that had no oil wells. That he had accepted their word without investigation, and had taken over their claims without looking them up in any way, seemed to me would show faith in his own projects. Little did I realize how very little sympathy men had for anyone who caused them financial loss.

I tried to cheer him up as best I could not letting him see how shocked I had been at his story. How hurt in my belief in him. He was very despondent, and all I said seemed to have no effect. He talked of resigning me and Robert, of taking us back in poverty worse than we ever had known. Of the loss of all he had worked so hard to obtain. In all his regret it was for us, not for himself.

"You are so young Neil, you will show them you can make good even after all this. You can make money again. Reinvest yourself in the world. I know it, Neil, and you must know it too. You must not allow this to crush you. A way out will be found." Even as I

said it my eyes rested upon the word "arrest" in the paper. Suppose they sent him to jail!

"Mr. Frederick, ma'am," the maid announced at that moment.

(Monday—A Friend In Need Is Appreciated.)

The Utah Press association, in convention at Salt Lake City, adopted resolutions favoring the league of nations, also the return of railroads to private ownership.



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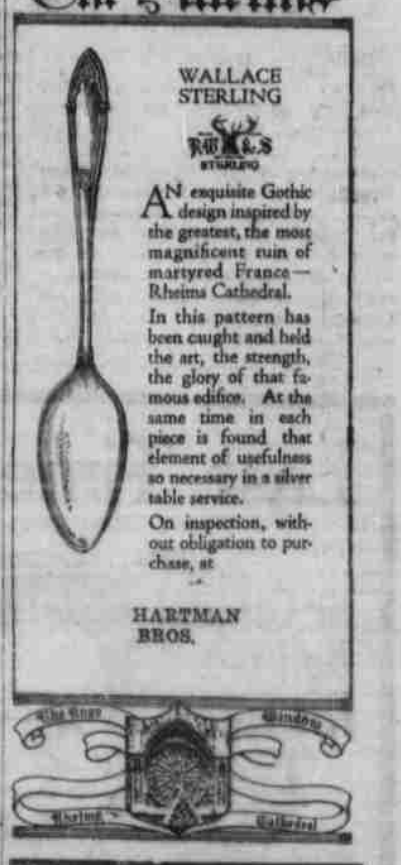
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