Washington Standard

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OFFICIAL CITY PAPER.

THE WALL IS BROKEN.

Naturally THE WASHINGTON STANDARD is highly gratified over the passage of the Lemon-Foshay franchise in its amended form Wednesday night, because that act of the council fulfills the STANDARD'S contention throughout the fight, that Olympia should not block the entrance of capital but should welcome it.

We are glad that the financial forces behind Mr. Foshay will have an opportunity to invest here. We believe the mere fact that Olympia has given them that opportunity will be a potent factor in the city's constant development, for it will show the investing world that when a man or set of men want to invest money in Olympia, Olympia will let them do it.

Any enmities that may have been aroused during the long fight for this franchise will, we sincerely hope, be now dissipated. Opposing interests must clash at times, from the very nature of things, but the city that goes ahead properly is the city whose residents and business men are big enough and broad enough to unite for common progress, after the clash is over.

CALIFORNIA'S ALIEN LAND LAW.

Naturally the legislative fight over the anti-alien ownership laws in our sister state of California occasioned much comment among the newspapers of Washington this last week. California's position was generally upheld, and yet, as the Benton Independent-Record put it: "California seems perfectly willing to tell the rest of the country to mind its own business in the matter of alien ownership of lands. But we wonder how California would feel, if having stirred up a war with Japan, the rest of the country should tell California to fight it out alone?"

"California has an undisputed right to make its own state laws," comments the Coulee City Dispatch, "and when the administration has displayed a friendly spirit by interceding in the interests of Japan, the responsibility, should complications arise, would rest entirely with the state of California." The Puyallup Valley Tribune calls attention to the fact that this nation called Japan "barbarous" when she closed her ports to the world, and then adds: "The Tribune is not here arguing the merits or demerits of the social or economic phase of the subject—but is simply wondering whether our present spirit of exclusiveness is a sign of increasing civilization or of decivilization."

"It has been most clearly demonstrated that the American farmer or truck gardener cannot compete with the Japanese whose standards of living are so much lower," says the Raymond Herald, voicing the statement most frequently made in other papers. "California has already found this out to her sorrow. Their entrance into any branch of industry is a menace to a people of a higher order of civilization engaged in the same pursuit." "The standard of living of the Chinaman may be slightly raised through contact with the American, but the standard of living of the American will be greatly lowered by the self-same contact," adds the Elma Chronicle in an editorial on "Our Own People First."

"It seems to us that it is right and proper that the American people should run this country a good deal as they see fit," says the Sunnyside Observer, "and if they do not choose to permit aliens to own the soil that is their business—absolutely. In our own country we ought to have our own way. We probably shall have it, even if we have to fight for it," the editorial adds, the comment being one of the very few that seem to take any stock in the talk of war.

"California and other Pacific Coast states are now able to understand better some of the problems with which the South has had to deal for nearly half a century in connection with its negro population of 10 or more millions," says the Snohomish County Tribune. To the Tacoma New Herald, however, "the attitude assumed by California is at once an acknowledgement of discreditable weakness in handling the competitive situation created by a handful of Japanese gardeners, and a demonstration of supreme selfishness in the mutual relations existing between that state and 47 others with which she is associated."

The Seattle Republican (edited by a negro) calls the contest a "hullaboo and "a burning shame and disgrace," adding with reference to this state: "The land owners in the White River valley, on Vashon island and other sections where the Japanese have developed, are not a hundredth part as fearful of the yellow peril as the members of organized labor, who labor more to cut down the time for work and increase the amount of money they get for the few hours they pretend to work, than they actually toil."

"Many newspapers throughout this country, particularly the Eastern press, which are naturally more familiar with the conditions which these bills are designed to remedy than are the people of California," sarcastically remarks the Kittitas Spokesman, "are supporting the contentions of the Japs." "California has no rights in this citizenship matter that the United States is bound to respect," adds the Columbia River Sun," but the United States as a nation should not lay down to unreasonable demands from yellow, brown, black or white who ask more than they are willing to grant."

From these comments it would appear that the people of Washington favor the position taken by California and will vote to pass the constitutional amendment to be submitted in November, 1914, providing that "the ownership of lands by aliens other than those who in good faith have declared their intention to become citizens of the United States is prohibited." The present law entirely prohibits alien ownership in this state.

THE MATTER OF RATES.

Every mortal—including editors, for most editors are mortal— is prone to make mistakes. General Hazard Stevens, president of the Olympia Light & Power company, in a communication published elsewhere in this issue, has hit upon what he believes to have been a mistake by the editor of THE WASHINGTON STANDARD.

The franchise fight is over. The STANDARD would prefer to drop any and all of the questions raised in the controversy and to treat all that has happened as a closed incident. But when the editorial opinions of the STANDARD are called in question as in this instance a final word must be said.

Throughout his communication General Stevens has lost sight of two main points in the Seattle gas rate decision, the two points upon which the editorial in question was based:

(1) The King county courts did NOT permit the gas company to raise its rates in accordance with the order of the public service commission, but sustained the city's contention.

(2) The decision also said:

"That high respect should be accorded to the decisions of the public service commission is recognized as a rule to be liberally applied in every case under review. It is a quasi-judicial body, clothed with vast administrative powers, and there is always a presumption that the official action of such a body was right.

"A presumption of this sort, however, is not to be regarded as superior to the proof. Manifest prejudicial error, if disclosed by the record, will not be perpetuated under judicial authority. The opinion of the commission is not any more controlling as such than is that of the eminent domain board in the matter of an assessment roll. *The findings of that body of experts*, while accorded the full benefit of the legal presumption, *have yet been on occasion set aside and modified by the courts.*"

Our position is warranted by these two facts.

The discussion is closed so far as THE WASHINGTON STANDARD is concerned.

THE PURE FOOD SHOW.

One never knows what he can do until he starts doing it. The same is true of a city, for a city is nothing more than a collection of individuals. If any one had predicted prior to its opening, that 6,000 or 7,000 people would visit the First Annual Pure Food Show during the three days' exhibition, not a few people in Olympia would have smiled sarcastically. That 6,000 or 7,000 people did visit the exposition we have taken as a matter of course now.

But the mere fact that 6,000 or 7,000 people did visit the show made of this latest venture of the Chamber of Commerce a great success and, we hope, a permanent institution. Anything that tends to bring the consumer, the dealer and the manufacturer closer together in this day and age is a great boon and this we believe the Pure Food Show has done, to a great extent.

Secretary H. L. Whiting and the committeemen directly concerned in the management of the first show deserve unstinted praise for its remarkable success.

Our Neighbors

DES CHUTES VALLEY.

Mr. James Ross, a brother of Mrs. Fred Grass, is here from Kansas and will make his home with her in the future.

Mr. William Hull made a business trip to Roy recently.

A Sunday school was organized at the Grange hall recently and will be held in the afternoon in the future.

Mr. W. Medley made a business trip to Olympia recently.

The party at Medley's a week ago Saturday night was well attended and everybody seemed to enjoy themselves.

Clyde Anderson of Yelm and Ellis Elg of Rainier were visitors in our neighborhood Saturday and Sunday.

The farmers are pretty busy these days putting in their crops. The rains have been coming as needed and the men have had about all they could do.

TUMWATER.

Mr. Loyd Bloom spent the week end with his mother in Seattle. His sister, Mrs. Ethel Jensen of Tacoma, with her baby daughter came back with him and will spend the week here.

Tumwater friends of Mrs. C. E. Hewittt spent a very pleasant evening with her Sunday, the occasion being her birthday. Very dainty refreshments were served.

Miss Geneva Massie and Mr. Al. Golem were guests here Sunday, April 27. They made the trip by motor cycle. They liked Tumwater well enough to be back again for the week end, May 3 and 4.

The many friends and neighbors of Mrs. Hahn were much saddened by the news of her death last Sunday. She became ill while visiting with a daughter in Tacoma but was being brought home. She died, while on the train, from an affection of the heart. The funeral took place Tuesday.

PUGET

Mr. and Mrs. Milan Wright made Mr. and Mrs. Brown a call Sunday.

Mrs. J. Braedlin of Chicago is now visiting her relatives at Puget, this being her first visit for two years to the Puget Sound vicinity. Mrs. Braedlin was formerly Miss Jeannette Libben.

Mr. Frank Schulz is expected to arrive here about May 10 from his home in Cleveland, Ohio. Mrs. Schulz has been here for more than a year caring for her mother, who has been for a long time under the doctor's care.

It has been reported that C. D. Hillman visited Puget a few days ago. Just "watch Puget grow." The people here are desirous of having some improvement made and have the above phrase for their slogan.

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Arnold moved Monday. They will make their journey via a new home-manufactured wagon which Mr. Arnold spent considerable time in making and which is of good and neat workmanship.

Mr. John Stoll came over Sunday from Delphi to call on his daughter, Marie. Monday morning while the dew was yet upon the grass, he departed to his work at Delphi.

Grandpa Roth has not improved very much, though she is able to be around.

VOTE DOWN SUFFRAGE

Parliament's Defeat of Measure Causes More Depredations.

LONDON, May 9.—Renewed incendiarism and bomb attempts have followed the defeat in the house of commons this week, of the Dickinson suffrage bill, which would have enfranchised 6,000,000,000 women. It was rejected by a majority of 47, the vote standing 266 to 219.

Open threats by militants of a campaign of vandalism far surpassing in magnitude anything before attempted, to revenge the defeat of the bill, are causing much alarm. Early today a bomb with a clock and battery attachment was found under the bishop's throne in St. Paul's cathedral. Another bomb was found in Bouvrie street, opposite the Evening Star building near Temple Chambers. Suffragettes are believed to be responsible.

The debate over the suffrage bill proved that the militant policy of the suffragists has done the cause great harm as far as parliament is concerned. Recent police court disclosures of acts of incendiarism planned by the militants far surpassing in magnitude anything heretofore attempted, and the burning of St. Catharine's church, at Hatcham, today undoubtedly influenced many members to vote against the bill.

Robert D. Hoppe, 33 years old, an employe of the Union Mills, died at his home near there Tuesday afternoon. The body was taken to Tacoma for burial. He is survived by a widow, a nephew, Julius Williams, and a niece, Mrs. Wesley Mann of Vancouver, B. C.

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MONROE BOARD TO GO

Seattle Report Says Governor Lister Has Asked for Resignations..

That Governor Ernest Lister has asked for the resignations of the members of the board of managers of the Monroe reformatory and will turn over the affairs of that institution to a new body on which the members of the board of control will hold the balance of power, is a report given currency in Seattle. Inasmuch as the three members of the board of control will constitute a majority of the membership on the reformatory board, Governor Lister will do by indirection what he could not do by direction—eliminate the private board of managers for the reformatory.

While there has been no official announcement that the reformatory change is to be made immediately, news of the move has leaked through sources that cannot be questioned. It probably will be followed within a short time by a formal announcement that the old board members have voluntarily retired and that the executive has worked out his new system of management.

The Monroe reformatory and its board of managers is a legacy from the Mead administration. During successive legislative sessions the board has been strong enough to defeat all efforts to place the institution under the state board of control, but Governor Lister believes he has solved that problem.

JAMES FOUND GUILTY

Convicted of Breaking into Home of Murville Lancaster at Bucoda.

Charles James of Bucoda was found guilty of breaking into the home of Murville Lancaster at Bucoda early on the morning of April 4, by a jury in the local superior court Thursday. James had been charged with forcing and breaking the lock on the Lancaster home while intoxicated, using abusive language to Mrs. Lancaster and pulling down a clothes line containing freshly washed linen.

James took the stand in his own behalf, testifying that, while he was slightly under the influence of liquor, he was not drunk, and knew what he was doing. He said that when he went to the Lancaster home he rapped on the door, and when Mrs. Lancaster answered him he asked for his wife, and when told that she was not there he told Mrs. Lancaster to tell him the truth. She said that if he did not believe her he could come in and search the house himself, and that he turned the knob, and while the door opened hard, he finally opened it and entered. He testified that the knocking down of the clothes line was an accident and that he apologized for it.

Witnesses for the state were Mrs. Lancaster, Mr. Crow, a neighbor, and his stepson.

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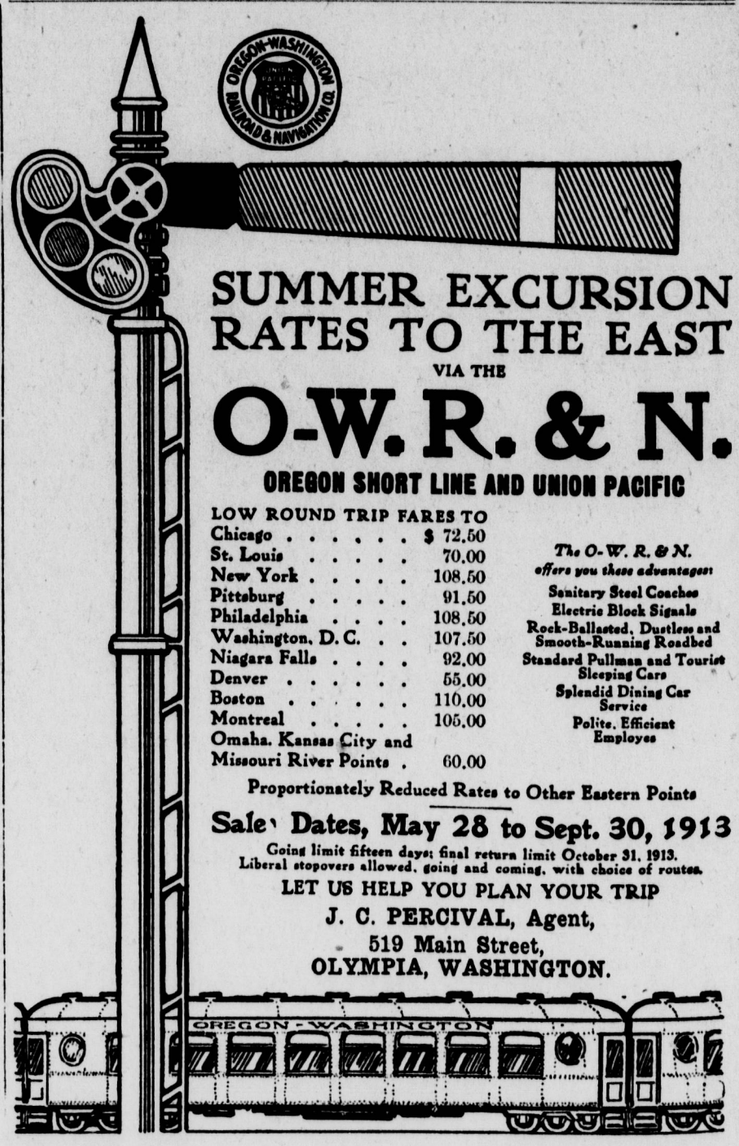

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