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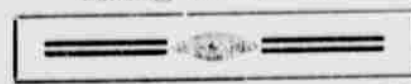
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Ardmore, Sunday, February 13, 1910

THE PARDONING POWER.

The pardoning board of Oklahoma has come in for a large share of sharp biting criticism from both the democratic and republican press of the state. Since the governor will have this work in exclusive charge now the batteries of the press will be turned upon him.

Before making criticisms of the manner in which the pardoning power is used the critic should first examine himself and try to determine what he would do under the same circumstances.

There was a time in the history of the world when punishments were very severe. We look back upon them now as being barbaric. We read in old Roman history where there was a penalty requiring that the man to be punished be sewed up in a leather bag together with poisonous vipers and thrown into the ocean to float to certain death. Men were thrown in among wild animals to be torn to pieces for crimes that were small indeed for such a degree of punishment. The time will come in this country when the people will look with horror back upon such sentences as "confinement at hard labor for your natural life," or upon sentences that run from ten to twenty-five years. Men are now in prisons, shut out from the sunlight of day, toiling with brain benumbed whose crimes are forgotten and whose confinement is of no benefit to society. There are women and children in Oklahoma who are starving because the father in an unguarded moment committed a crime against society and whose further punishment adds to his own and his family's suffering and the expense of the state, when society has absolutely nothing to gain. The idea of getting even in the punishment of criminals is wrong. To tell a prisoner he has had his lining and now it is up to the state to use the prerogative and even up, is as much a crime against humanity as the prisoner himself committed.

The certain punishment by courts deter crime, but severity never did. When it was a death penalty to steal sheep in Ireland more sheep were stolen than when it was a fine of ten dollars.

When Jeff Davis of Arkansas was making up his canvass for the United States senate his enemies charged him with the too free use of the pardoning prerogative of the governor. At one of his speaking occasions he answered the charges by asking the crowd if any person was present who had been pardoned by him. A young man arose on one of the back seats. "How and are you?" said Davis. "Twenty-two," was the answer. "For what crime were you sentenced?" was the next query. "The boy in his own manner told of a spree and of it tonight. 'What are you doing now?' asked the governor. 'Supping my mother,' was the answer. 'Have you ever been drunk again?' 'Never,' was the reply. 'Has your mother any other means of support?' 'She has not.' Then Davis turned to the crowd and said, 'Gentlemen, there is the class of citizens I have taken out of the prisons of your state.' And Davis won.

Who could fail to be touched with the kindness of the matchless Jim Taylor of Tennessee, who rescued mountaineers to their families. This

old mountaineer who with his pocket knife carved a fiddle and sent it to Taylor, accompanied with wishes for his merry Christmas, as he sat around the fireside with his family, was pardoned out of prison, and as the governor sat in the executive mansion with his family the mountaineer also sat in his hut with his children about his knees, listening to the fiddle whose cheery voice had been stifled over many holiday seasons.

The governor who makes one family happy and saves the children from starvation and ignorance, does more than the governor who severely punishes a dozen criminals.

TAXES AND POLITICS.

The republican press of the state, is very actively engaged in calling the attention of the people to the high rate of taxation and attempting to use it as a means to hammer the democratic administration. The republican party poses as the party that does things. It points to its schools, its roads, its bridges, its municipal improvements in cities and counties where it is in power and in this state where it is not in power it hammers from one day to the other on the question of taxation. If the republican party advocates education and improvements it is a party of high taxation. If it stands for slothfulness and against education it can afford to brag the measure that have been necessary to purchase the good things, as state of Oklahoma enjoys. When it raises its voice against taxation it turns itself before the eyes of the people.

If there were not isolated cases in this portion of the state where taxes are too high the people who live there do not possess the attributes common to man. It was the natural thing for the father whose child had been denied educational advantages to take a step too far in voting bonds when he had the opportunity of building a school for his boy. Did we use the expression too far? Can we go too far in matter of education and do too much for the children of Oklahoma? Some localities have gone so far to please the heavy tax payer at the present, but the heaviest tax payer will be benefited. Property in a good community is worth twice what it is in a poor one and the value of real estate in this portion of the state proves it.

Still another feature of the question is, could the republicans have done any better than the democrats and what means have they for improvements over what has been done, if the state were to be turned over to them. The sensible man will ask that question before he throws down the party of his choice to clothe a stranger in the sacred ermine of public office.

There is not an honest republican in the state who believes his own political party could have saved any of the burdens without denying some of the privileges, no matter what he might state for mere political effect.

HONESTY RETAINS POWER.

I believe that every responsible officer should be a primary officer, and that of such are, by faithful service to the people, every day. But what he receives in salary, I fear a very high one, he receives in the form of a bribe, and that is the worst kind of a bribe.

This sentence taken from the platform of Lee Cruse, candidate for governor shows exactly where he stands with reference to the hundreds of office holders by appointment that have many states and prove to be a terrible upon the taxpayers of the country. And when Lee Cruse says they should earn every dollar they receive he means just that much. The politicians may object to this carrying out this portion of his platform in case of his election, but he will turn his back upon them as he did when some of them asked certain things upon him connected with his duties as president of the board of trustees of the State University. He told them that if they expected him to count in questionable deeds on the ground of political expediency, that the wrong man was at the head of that office institution. And he did not turn his back on them and he never will, when in his judgment it is his duty to do so. Cruse will be better known during this campaign for the reason that the world's leaders of state know that they cannot control his official acts. In this respect Cruse stands for the people and against the wire working politicians. Every official act of his while governor of this state will bear the earmark of absolute honesty and he will strengthen the democratic forces of the state not by leading up a machine, but by giving the people an honest administration of state government.

The history of politics is that the party who deals with absolute honesty

with the people is the party that retains its power. Tammany lost to the enemy because it became corrupt. Kentucky sacrificed its democratic majority upon the altar of machine legislation. And if Oklahoma's intelligent voters stand in line for democratic supremacy such men as Cruse who came with that memorable statement, "I would not permit myself to be governor of the state," must be chosen as the party standard bearer. The day of the proletrian politician in Oklahoma must be supplanted by a change to the safe and sane man who loves honor better than political preferment and who holds the protection of the people in higher regard than political expediency. If the right man is placed at the head of the ticket there can be no worry about the final outcome in the general election. The people can be trusted to cast their ballots right and the man who is afraid of the people is not worthy of their confidence.

The democracy of Oklahoma can be trusted to place its banner in the hands of Lee Cruse who will lead it to honorable victory and who will return it to the people unsoiled by any official act that would cause it to trail in the dust. Give us Cruse, and victory is certain.

Little Stories of the Street

Gets Mexican Quail.

Chas. D. Wortham, keeper of the Chickasaw Lake, was happy yesterday over the receipt of four pairs of Mexican blue quail which he will place in the lake park for propagating purposes. Willmore Brown received the birds by express from Russell, New Mexico, and gave the birds to Mr. Wortham. Mr. Wortham says he will soon have many of the birds in the park as he will protect them closely until they have grace the park.

County Fair Enthusiast.

J. C. Morgan, president of the Carter county farmers' institute, was in the city yesterday and together with Secretary McCoy drafted the program for the institute to be held on the 5th of March. Prof. Morgan is elated with the steps that have been taken here with reference to the organization of a fair and says it will be the life of the institute. He hopes to see the Ardmore people at the meeting Monday night at the city hall. Prof. Morgan was the first man to organize a district club in his town and says he is determined that every school in the county shall have its district club. Work will be begun at once to get as many as six hundred members in the county institute.

Orchestra to Norman.

The Lawensien Orchestra, composed of Emanuel, Sol and Harry Lawensien and Arthur Sles and Luther Randel went to Norman Friday afternoon, where they furnished music for the girls' fraternity dance at the state university.

From Whitesboro.

D. W. Judd, accompanied by his wife and child, is here on a business trip from Whitesboro, Texas. Mr. Judd is proprietor of the Beckham cafe in Gilmer's hotel. He will return to Whitesboro today, but expects to come back again if his headquarters here in the near future.

Divorce Day.

Yesterday was "divorce day" in Judge S. H. Russell's court and the ties of matrimony were severed for three couples who had resorted to the courts for that purpose.

Primrose Mammoth Minstrels.

The "First Part" setting of the Primrose Minstrels is said to be a perfect gem in its way; white and gold is pretty combination used to ward an effect of genuine grandeur. The whole scheme utilized is one of massive scenic conception and carries with it a fairly good idea of some of the ancient Roman palaces.

This magnificent background is furthermore enhanced in effectiveness by the rich draperies and other picturesque furnishings that have been generously provided by Mr. Primrose, who places himself on giving the proper atmosphere to his entertainment of so much novelty. The Primrose Show promises more than a little in the way of exceptionally fine singing at the Roldson opera house next Wednesday, Feb. 16, not forgetting the clever performance by the famous Ward Bros., who have arranged a special act of astonishing, as well as laughing importance. Watch for big free street parade day of show.

GIRLS' BOOSTER CLUB AUXILIARY FORMED

YOUNG LADIES ENLIST TO HELP BEAUTIFY AND BUILD UP THE CITY.

The slogan in Ardmore these days is "Boost," and the spirit is permeating throughout the town. The fever has spread to the gentler sex of the city and today Ardmore claims the distinction of having the only girls' booster club in the state. And this new acquisition to Ardmore's already well organized Commercial Club means more—much more—than the reader would suspect. It means that this old town is to be beautified; it means that ideas will spring from this body for the good of the town that will be taken up and carried to successful fruition by the Commercial Club; and when this body of girl town boosters get busy, things are going to happen—for they are organized to accomplish things.

A meeting for the purpose of formation of the club was held in the Commercial Club rooms yesterday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock and was presided over by Secretary N. H. McCoy. The body starts out with a membership of forty. The following officers were elected:

President—Mrs. Ida Alexander.
Vice President—Miss Nora Robinson.

Secretary—Miss Sue Frame.
Treasurer—Miss Edna James.

Chairmen for the four city wards were selected as follows:
First Ward—Miss Anna Matthews.
Second Ward—Mrs. C. E. Washington.

Third Ward—Mrs. Elizabeth Hammond.
Fourth Ward—Miss Highley.

The president, secretary, treasurer and four ward chairmen compose the executive board.

The first regular meeting of the club will be held at the residence of the president, Mrs. Ida Alexander, tomorrow at 7:30 p. m., when the future work will be outlined and plans laid for the accomplishment of civic improvements.

Secretary McCoy's idea of perpetuating the Girls' Booster Club as an auxiliary of the Commercial Club is, we think, a very wise move in the right direction.

If any of our business men were to conceive the idea that a number of invited guests at his home would greatly advertise and strengthen his business, his first step would be to hold a consultation with his wife and enlist her interest, sympathy, and cooperation in the matter. In such way does our Commercial Club need the aid of the womanhood of the city, in its plans for building up its business and financial interests.

Ardmore expects one thousand invited guests on the 25th and 26th of February. They come from an invitation extended by the city itself from purely business motives. Now she should clean up, prepare comfortable rooms and inviting meals for her guests. She should don her most beautiful attire and stand waiting and smiling to extend to her visitors a cordial happy welcome to her walls. The teachers expect to pay for room and board but there is something more than giving value received to these guests; Ardmore should make the teachers feel that they have indeed come to a city beautiful and fair in every respect, the memory of which will linger in sweetest fragrance through coming years.

It is impossible for the mothers to meet the Commercial Club but the young ladies will furnish a splendid medium through which the two bodies may co-operate.

Secretary McCoy has an excellent plan to accomplish all that is needed without overworking anyone. His plan conceives and utilizes much power, when it is going to waste and when the business interests of the city needs at all times and we bespeak for him the aid of all our mothers and daughters.

Will Go to Muskogee.

R. J. Jarvis returned yesterday from Wichita, Kans., where he made arrangements to assume the position of city salesman for the Cold Packing Company's branch houses at Tulsa and Muskogee. Mr. Jarvis was manager for the Swift branch house here for two years and has recently been associated with the Cold Storage market. Mr. Jarvis and family will reside in the future, much to the regret of their many friends here.

Admiration Want Ads are the best.

R. M. DILLARD BECOMES CANDIDATE

A CITIZEN OF FOURTEEN YEARS OFFERS FOR COUNTY WEAVER WORTHY OF CONFIDENCE.

R. M. Dillard of this city is the first man in the county to get into the race for county weaver. Mr. Dillard possesses every qualification to fill the office to the entire satisfaction of the people. He is honest, well educated, sober, industrious and if the democrats of the county nominate him for this position they may rest assured that the public weighing portion of the county government will be in good hands. Mr. Dillard has lived in this immediate country for fourteen years, during that time he has engaged in farming, stock-raising, clerking in wholesale and retail houses and in store management. He did not have to learn courtesy, for he was born in the Old Volunteer state, Tennessee, and imbibed the kind of good fellowship and the kind of democracy that placed Bob Taylor in the United States senate and his earliest lessons were concerning such men as Old Hickory Jackson. He is a life-long consistent democrat, his heart has been meliorated toward humanity because he is one of the people in the trenches with the other fellow, not having had the best educational advantages, he has seized every opportunity that offered him learning and training and he is a well rounded, well developed man, capable of giving the people what they want in the way of a public weaver and worthy in every way to represent the people of this county or any other county in an official position.

with whiskey selling, and which was up before Judge Galt in police court Friday, will be tried on its merits in this court on the 21st of the present month, and in event of a conviction, Judge Galt will, if an appeal is asked, rule on the question of its being carried to the county court. Much interest is centered on the outcome of this case, inasmuch as it has been useless to convict parties charged with the violation as the cases were carried to the county court, but City Attorney Moore's ruling to the effect that the police court is the court of last resort and Judge Galt will make his ruling in all probability in conformity thereto.

Three drunks, and two negro women, charged with fighting, were in police court yesterday. Judge Galt assessed the usual fines against each offender.

HOUSE DEMOLISHED IN PECULIAR MANNER

STREET PAVING COMPANY AT SULPHUR BLASTING ROCK ON STREET DOES DAMAGE.

Sulphur, Okla., Feb. 12.—The residence of Maj. Ruben J. Carter, on Carter Heights, was demolished today by a bunch of chained croosties falling upon it with such velocity that they crushed through the roof, ceiling and floor. The croosties had been placed over a blast by the street paving company to prevent small stones from being thrown into the air by the explosion and doing possible damage.

The Carter hill is of conglomerate formation, huge boulders composed of small stones cemented so tightly together that it is difficult to blast them apart, and experts can never tell what a blast in the peculiar formation will result in.

The Shelby-Downard Asphalt and Paving company have been three times longer excavating the hill and bringing the street down to grade than they calculated, and will lose money, it is said, on their paving contract.

The Carters were away from home at the time of the blast and no one was injured.

WILL DECIDE WHISKY CASE FEBRUARY 21

CASE OF JNO. STUMP WILL BE DISPOSED OF BY JUDGE JNO. GALT.

The case of Jno. Stump, charged with

1910.



WILLIAM WINTERHOFF AS THE PARSON IN THE FIGHTING PARSON OPERA HOUSE FEBRUARY 18.

THE SIX-DAY LAW IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL

MISSOURI SUPREME COURT DECIDES BAKERIES CAN WORK ON THE SEVEN-H DAY.

Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 12.—The supreme court of Missouri today decided the law prohibiting bakeries from working more than six days a week to be unconstitutional.

FREE PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.

Modern Woodmen Preparing for a Big Time Tuesday Night.

The following program, under the auspices of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Neighbors of America, will be rendered at the Robison opera house Tuesday evening, February 15, beginning promptly at 8:15 o'clock:

Music.....Prof. Roper
Invocation.....Rev. C. C. Welch
Address of Welcome.....J. R. Mason
Introduction.....

C. G. Harvey, Venerable Consul
Address.....Chas. E. Whalen
National lecturer of the M. W. A.
Music.....Miss Pearl Galyon
Solo.....Mrs. N. C. Wood
Solo.....Miss Grace Perry
Male Quartett.....

Freeman, Prather, Hoffman, Tyler
Military Drill, R. N. A. Degree Team

A special invitation is extended to every fraternal order in the city, also to the general public. There will be large delegations from surrounding camps. Come out and enjoy the evening. You are welcome.

C. G. HARVEY,
Consul M. W. A.
RUTH WHITFORD,
Oracle, R. N. A.

"The Fighting Parson."

If you are a real lover of dramatic art do not overlook the coming engagement of "The Fighting Parson" at our local play house on Friday, Feb. 18. The newspapers throughout the country proclaim it the best of its kind. A pastoral comedy drama with a plot, one in which the characters are natural, the stage settings realistic, and a company of real actors and actresses, with metropolitan reputations. The story deals with the struggles of a country college bred minister, whose determination to win carries him to success.

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