OKLAHOMA CITY TIMES

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R. E. STAFFORD ..... Editor
E. K. GAYLORD ..... General Manager
CHARLES W. BOGGS ..... Business Manager

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LINES WORTH REMEMBERING.

Some temptations come to the industrious, but all temptations attack the idle.—SPURGEON.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

THE particularly obnoxious feature of the socialist so-called "fair election law" is that it is proposed in the form of a constitutional amendment. All the minutia of a legislative enactment is found in its terms.

Let it not be forgotten in this connection that whatever is incorporated into the constitution by a vote of the people cannot be altered or amended save by another vote of the people. That is to say, if time should disclose—and time usually discloses a number of imperfections in any enactment—that the law needed amendment in order to make it workable, no alterations could be effected save by a resubmission of the question to the electorate at large. The legislature would be powerless to remedy the defects.

Ten years hence, in the event of its ratification by the people, the law may be entirely impracticable. No human being is gifted with the prescience for foreseeing what conditions will then obtain. But we all know that conditions change frequently. We are also aware that what may be deemed wholesome in the form of legislation today might be wholly obsolete tomorrow. Therefore, it is clear that legislation affecting political conditions should be in the form of enactments by the legislature, rather than by constitutional amendments, in order that the same may be readily altered.

The obvious duty of every good citizen, in the light of these facts, is to defeat the proposed amendment. Leave matters of this nature to the legislature. Then if we find that our election laws or machinery are not operating wholesomely or effectively we can have the same readily changed.

Our state constitution, be it remembered, is intended to embody only basic law, or general principles. The legislative body is created thereunder for the purpose of working out the details of their application. But if we are to adopt the policy of legislating by constitutional amendment hereafter, we may as well go a step further and abolish the legislature, thus saving the state that expense, and let the electorate at large perform the functions thereof. It is a revolutionary proposal, to be sure, but it is strictly in keeping with the proposal now before us affecting alterations in our election law.

Brewers in national convention are considering the manufacture of beer with less alcohol content. They have started their rally too late. If liquor sellers had confined their efforts to malt beverages and had tried to control the sale of the enormously profitable spirits, there would be fewer prohibition laws in effect.

THOSE LOW-HANGING BRANCHES.

WHEN dwarfs walk along the sidewalks in a residence section of this city they are not annoyed by the branches of trees which hang low. But the man of average height and the woman with a parasol are irritated as the branches swish over their heads.

In the early spring there was a general movement which resulted in all the trees being trimmed. But one trimming alone will not suffice, and the proper municipal department should now vigorously enforce the ordinance which requires the removal of branches which are a nuisance in more than one part of Oklahoma City.

All of us take much pride in the civic beauty which we have brought about. But the good effect of this is nullified each time that a citizen moves along a sidewalk and has his hat swept off his head. And the woman who has her parasol torn by low-hanging branches is ready to offer caustic comment on that city department which permits this annoyance to exist.

An entertainment advertised for Friday night conveys the information that everybody is welcome and that there will be no admission. Why are the people not to be admitted?

"PICKETING."

WE don't quite get the angle of the city commissioners who have just passed an ordinance forbidding "picketing." Do they mean to tell us that power is lodged with them to suspend free speech?

"Picketing," in the common acceptance of the term, is at its worst a mere form of moral suasion. It consists of parading up and down the sidewalk in front of a tabooed place of business and advising passing pedestrians of the fact. Whatever end is served thereby is served by moral suasion. No force is attempted, and, so far as we have been able to observe, no act committed which would amount to a nuisance.

We are inclined to doubt the power of the commissioners to interdict the exercise of moral suasion in a town of this size. The authority conferred upon them by legislation, constitutional and statutory, scarcely reaches that far.

The kind of "picketing" we have witnessed here since the theater strike was on is doubtless very annoying, not only to theater owners, but also to passing pedestrians, yet it may be seriously questioned if it can be stopped by legislation. "The Casino theater is unfair to organized labor," as the picketers cry out, is not an act of violence. It disturbs no one's peace. In the final analysis, therefore, it will have to be conceded that it is nothing more nor less than the exercise of the right of free speech. And a city ordinance can scarcely suspend that right, spite of the number of business men and tax-payers who may ask it.

Reports from Austria advise that paper is being used in that country in place of cotton. If the Austrians will communicate with Oklahoma, a trade can be made whereby we will exchange a million bales of Oklahoma cotton for a million rolls of white paper.

A BIGGER GRANDSTAND.

DIRECTORS of the State Fair association will meet in a few days to consider the advisability of completing the concrete grandstand at its present size or enlarging it.

By all means let the grandstand be doubled from its present size.

Of course, it is quite easy to recommend to the directors to spend $2 instead of $1 and ask the directors to find the money, but these leaders in civic development have proved themselves so resourceful in the days when they were beset with financial perplexities that their admirers are confident that now, when money is piling up in every financial institution of the land, that these skilled State Fair builders will feel inclined to incur further liabilities to construct a grand stand which will be ample for future crowds.

A grand stand that will seat 4,000 people will not be adequate for next year or any future year. For, the State Fair now has reached a place which assures continued gains in attendance. During the last State Fair, the grand stand was not large enough to accommodate the crowds on at least five days of the eight that the fair was open.

It is known that former years of the State Fair were not profitable. The bold pioneers who invested money in the enterprise did so for patriotic reasons and not for gain. They expect no returns. If there be a profit, the stockholders are probably willing that such funds be used for improvements. And while the stockholders realize the difficulties which the directors have encountered, they will indorse the management and hope that its problems have reached a solution.

So, let's have the bigger grand stand. It is imperative that we provide seats for those who come long distances and are willing to pay for space where they can witness the racing and amusement features.

As a last resort, if the directors feel that they should not go more into debt to complete the grand stand, why not ask the loyal people of this city to subscribe for a little more stock and build a grand stand which will assure seats for our visitors?

The people of Oklahoma City never yet have failed to respond in a financial way to support any legitimate enterprise, and they will not fail now to make the State Fair bigger.

An undertaker in California is suing the man from whom he bought the business, claiming that the death rate is much lower than represented by the seller. This complainant should commence to advertise and stop his squealing.

It begins to appear that at the prevailing cotton prices Oklahoma will reap about as much revenue this year from its crop as in any former year when the yield was in excess of a million bales.

An eastern newspaper is trying to induce some man to write the "Revelations of a Husband," but so far, no man has walked into the trap.

This is Friday, the thirteenth, rather an unlucky combination for those who are superstitious.

Six-cent bread will not frighten one, provided the price of toast be not advanced.

LUKE McLUKE—HIS COLUMN

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Close.

He is a real close friend of mine,
I speak of Oswald Ignats Fine.
He is a close friend, you'll concede—
He turned me down in time of need.

Her One Desire.

(A Thrilling Drama of Before and After.)

Before You Get Her—Honey
After You Get Her—Money

Colored.

A painter dropped a pail of red
Paint down on Uncle Dan.
And Dan, in his amazement said:
"Gosh, I'm a colored man."

Poor Old Paw.

Willie—Paw, can I ask a question?
Paw—Yes, my son. What is it?
Willie—Why, could you say that a weather strip is a long felt necessity?
Paw—You better do your lessons and keep your mouth shut.

Stung.

"Bee farming now bring profits to
A few," said Mr. Young.
"I tried it, though, and I'll tell you
I certainly got stung."

Huh!

"And who?" demanded the Campaign Orator, "who is the coming man?"
"The installment collector," replied a married mutt in the rear of the hall.

Scratching the Itch.

He itched for office and for fame
He thought his party he would sway;
So, when the voters saw his name
They scratched him on election day.

Notice!

Hereafter the other members of the Club will be expected to follow Golden Rule, who lives at Green Bay, Wis.

Oh, Joy!

The Club is going to give a dinner to the Reds and Cardinals of the National league and the Phillies of the American league. Miss Fannie Talendar of Clermont County, Ohio, will act as Mistress of Ceremonies.

She's a Peach.

Dick's too tame—
What would you call
The Blue Grass dame
Who says, "You all?"—H. C.

Telling Troubles.

Telling another man your troubles doesn't relieve your troubles. It merely adds to the other man's troubles.—Luke McLuke.

And the worst part of it is that you hardly get started telling him the first of your troubles until he interrupts you and proceeds to tell you his for an hour and a quarter. This is the worst thing about having troubles to tell.—Wilmington Journal-Republican.

Giddap!

Dear Luke: Transportation has become an intricate problem. But what I was going to say was that the Rudenhour Jitney Bus company is doing business at Newcastle, Pa.—Jack Somonds.

Make It Two, Will Ya?

I want to go out in the woods for a while,
Where the winds and the shadows play;
Where all nature is wrapped in the sunlit smile
That is born of a Summer day;
Far away from the glare of the city's heat,
With some ice, and some mint and a jug,
And a Corn Fed who's pretty and plump and sweet
To hug, and hug, and hug.

C. P. W., Louisville.

Watch Us Grow!

Recent additions to the Club are Shelby Wiser of East Butte, Mont.; Chow Shea and Ella Fant of Flemingsburg, Ky.; Ive Stonerock, Williamsport, Ohio, and Willie Combs Furr of Frankfort, Ky.

Names Is Names.

Manila has fives at Urbana, Ohio.

Our Daily Special.

Never Sell Experience For Less Than You Paid For It.

Luke McLuke Says

It is a mighty cowardly married man who isn't boss in his own house—when his wife is away.

If you will just keep your mouth shut and breathe through your nose all the time you will make yourself healthier and others happier.

What has become of the old fashioned woman who used to wear diamond earrings?

It also takes a woman quite a while to make up her mind to make up her mind.

Always remember that the man who won't listen to reason is thinking the same thing about you.

It isn't a bit more unlucky to borrow money on Friday than to borrow it on any other day. But it is different with lending money.

A man takes care of a brand new hat and a brand new wife. But he grows careless as they grow older.

Many a man who brags that he has never paid a cent for repairs on his automobile can prove his statement by the men who did the repairing.

A wife may not come up to her husband's expectations. But her husband has to admit that she fills the bill.

Don't get the idea into your noggin that no other man is smart enough to fill your job. That's how a lot of fellows lose good jobs.

Science is enabling us to do things that were regarded as impossible ten years ago. But it will be a long time before Science fixes things so that a man can kick himself where other people want to kick him.

This is a busy world. Most people don't care a hang if you don't Do Good as long as you Make Good.

You may have noticed that the self made man usually sees to it that he is equipped with ball bearing vocal organs and a non-stop voice.

When you see a young man on his way home at midnight wearing a red nose don't be so sure that he is a slave to the Demon Rum. Maybe he has just come from courting a hand-painted girl.

The REPUBLICAN VIEW

Edited By The Republican State Committee

UNDEMOCRATIC DEMOCRACY.

ON NO OCCASION has that policital clique known as the Williams machine, now in control of the democratic party in Oklahoma, betrayed its real attitude and motives as truly as in its opposition, and in its arguments in opposition to the fair election law.

The key note of the opposition argument is the claim that "it would give control to the two minority parties"; and that the "control" should rest with the "majority" party.

As there is no majority party in Oklahoma today, that question is beside the point. The democratic party is merely a plurality party in this state. The vital issue is, that an election board should not be controlled by any party. That function is not executive, but judicial. That is should be a non-partisan body, where each of the three largest parties should have representation.

Soon the democratic party, owing to the destructive policies of the clique now in control, the Williams machine, will be one of the minority parties. Then the pernicious effect of the present system might be brought home to such democrats as do not already know it to be bad. But then the present system will not be in force any more. Then every democrat in the state will be grateful for the law that insures his party representation on a really non-partisan election board. It is harder to put through an unfair thing when decision rests with three men, each of different political faith, than it is for two men, representing the same interest (now Governor Williams), to outvote the third.

Unfortunately, the idea of "control" becomes more of an obsession with the Williams machine the more it sees its power waning. Among all right thinking men, it is agreed that the courts, particularly the supreme court and courts of appeal, should be composed of judges of differing political faith. Presidents of the United States have generally recognized this principle as one superseding party considerations. Sentiment is growing among the lawyers of this state, irrespective of their political convictions, to the effect that the mere impression, whether true or not, that one has to go to certain law firms supposed to rank as strong in the political organization of the party in power, in order to win a law suit, is an injustice to the court, and undermines respect for law and order. The fact that all the judges on our supreme bench in this state belong to the same political party is responsible for this impression.

But in its desperate efforts to perpetuate itself in power, though the democratic party has been losing votes steadily ever since statehood, the Tammany of Oklahoma does not seem to be disposed to stop at anything. Control is its main objective. Control, so that it may plunder.

SIDELIGHTS ON WAR MOVES

THINGS have gone steadily from bad to worse in the Rumanian campaign and unless General Winter beats Hindenburg and Falkenhayn to it we may see the latest addition to the warring powers feeling the touch of cold steel before Thanksgiving.

Rumanians now are pressed back behind their own frontier in Vulcan Pass, on the southwestern wing of the Transylvanian line. The German success already has reached a point here where the Rumanian occupation of Orsova on the Danube is neutralized. There can be no hope of a Rumanian-Russian attempt to span this broad river and attempt an invasion of Serbia while the menace to the whole lower half of the Rumanian front is as real as it is at present. The Teuton advance that reoccupied Kronstadt represents a retreat for King Ferdinand's forces of forty miles. From Kronstadt north to where the Russians are attempting to effect a junction in force with the Rumanians beyond Kompolung the Rumanian line has held its positions. This entire northern angle will be snapped back if the Germans can scale the passes into Rumania. Consequently it is reasonable to assume that the Germans are concentrating from Kronstadt to the Vulcan Pass with the object in view of forcing a wholesale Rumanian retirement by threatening the interior of the country.

The writer has been waiting for a fortnight in the hope that something definite would happen in the great series of battles in Volhynia and Galicia that would be the key for a story, but Russia has said absolutely nothing about the stupendous efforts of Brusiloff to take Rohatyn and outflank Bothmer's brilliant Halicz force in order to really open the road to Lemberg. Even if Brusiloff has gained nothing strategically by his bull rushes and lunge losses, he has kept many a division from joining the drive royal on Rumania, and it is of the utmost importance that he do this.

Were it not for the renewing smashes of the Italians on the Carso plateau the ever developing battles of the Somme in France and the now increasing intensity of the flank campaigns before Saloniki, Rumania would have been torched before this.

Apparently trench warfare has set in on the Dobrudja front. Mackensen can no longer hope to get the Cernavoda bridge across the Danube on the Constanza railway. This German hope has been definitely stopped, for time always works on the side of the Russians.

Now, if Hindenburg is to deliver, he has to crush Rumania before winter. The immediate effort of the allies is to so press the fighting on every side that Germany cannot release the men necessary to screw down the vise.—W. M. H.

RIPPLING RHYMES

By Walt Mason
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THE ANOMALY.

WHILE riding in my buzz-buzz cart, I hit Bill Wax and spoiled his frame, and knocked his marrow-bones apart, and he remarked, "I was to blame!" I said, "This dark disaster, Bill, to my sad life new sorrow lends; I do not run my car to kill or mutilate my dearest friends. I'll pay the surgeon if he'll fix the bones I've broken, rent and bowed; and if you journey o'er the Styx, I'll see you have a Palm Beach shroud." "It was my fault," I heard him say, "and you don't have to pay a cent, for I was walking like a jay, and wasn't looking where I went. I busted every rule, I think, which ought to govern gents on foot, and now you've put me on the blink, I think a while I should stay put." Bill Wax shines brighter than a star; Bill Wax deserves immortal fame; he says the owner of a car is not in every case to blame! Hereafter, as I tour the town, in my new car that swiftly hies, I'll always try to run him down in preference to other guys.

OLD STORIES IN NEW TYPE

From The TIMES FILES

Twenty Years Ago Today.

C. A. Bennett came up from Purcell today.

G. Ewing Price went to Shawnee last evening.

Miss Carrie Fairchild has returned from her summer trip to New York.

Mrs. Frank Harrah and her mother went to Kingfisher today.

Fifteen Years Ago Today.

The city council will meet tonight when it will accept the bids for street paving and discuss the letting of a franchise for a street railway.

T. K. Baker has leased the home of J. F. Hartwell at Tenth and Robinson and will move in sometime this week.

Fred Neal of Chandler was in the city this morning.

A. P. Roulowsky of the Choctaw was a west bound passenger this morning.

The Washburn-Lytle company has just signed a lease for a four-story building to be put up for them on Main street.

Ten Years Ago Today.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Warakai arrived today and went directly to their apartment at the Threadgill hotel. Mrs. Warakai is a niece of General Kuroki of Russian-Japanese war fame.

The Ready-to-Help club meets this afternoon with Miss Ada Mae Eastland.

Mrs. Horace Wilson and her son Lester are visiting her mother, Mrs. J. G. Street.

Mrs. Frank Best entertained Miss Armstrong of St. Louis, Mr. Satherwait and Mr. Short at dinner last evening in honor of her sister, Miss Hartenbower of Dundas, Kan.

HISTORY BITS

One Hundred Years Ago Today.

1816—Benjamin H. Brewster, attorney general in the cabinet of President Arthur, born in Salem county, N. J. Died April 4, 1888.

Seventy-Five Years Ago Today.

1841—British forces under Sir Hugh Gough captured the important Chinese city of Ning-po.

Fifty Years Ago Today.

1866—John Van Buren, noted lawyer and politician, son of President Martin Van Buren, died at sea. Born at Hudson, N. Y., in 1810.

Twenty-Five Years Ago Today.

1891—Human Freedom league organized by a convention of reformers which met in Independence hall, Philadelphia.

One Year Ago Today in the War.

October 13, 1915—Premier Viviani announced that Great Britain, France and Russia would go to Serbia's aid; Bulgarian armies crossed into Serbia, menacing Nish and the Orient railway.

Our Daily Birthday Party.

Major General Thomas H. Barry, in command of the central department of the army, born in New York city, 61 years ago today.

HOGWALLOW LOCALS

BY GEORGE BINGHAM.
(Copyright by George Matthew Adams)

Miss Hostetter Hocks spent Tuesday afternoon in the Gander creek woods communing with nature. As usual she did all of the talking.

* *

Washington Hocks has had his front yard fence moved out further from the house, so that his wife can't smell his breath by the time he reaches the gate.

* *

Jefferson Potlocks is in receipt of a lot of rosin for his fiddle-bow. He ordered enough for his moustache as he will sing, also.

MUTT AND JEFF—Jeff Is Certainly a Rapid Calculator.

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BY BUD FISHER