

You'll Sit Up Nights Next Week, Folks!

Because, if you start "The Red Emerald," the next book in The Star's Novel-a-Week series, you will get so interested you can't lay your paper down. It starts next Monday and finishes Saturday.

The Seattle Star

LAST EDITION

THE ONLY PAPER IN SEATTLE THAT DARES TO PRINT THE NEWS

VOLUME 18

SEATTLE, WASH., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1916.

ONE CENT

ON TRAINS AND NEWS STANDS

BLACKMAIL MILLIONAIRES!

Sheriff Hodge Orders Arrest of Two Women After Seattle Woman Confesses to Wholesale Extortion by Means of Pretty Girls and Hidden Cameras in Bedrooms; Declares Men Gave Fortunes to Gain Possession of Photographs.

GRIFFITHS TO OPPOSE HIN RACE

Erickson Eliminated in Primary; Caldwell Polls Big Vote

BRADFORD IS SECOND

THE VOTE

FOR MAYOR
(First two nominated)
Gill 10,519.
Griffiths 15,956.
Erickson 9,129.
Raymer 1,484.

FOR CORPORATION COUNSEL
(First two nominated)
Caldwell 13,559.
Bradford 14,571.
Murphine 11,173.
Gibbs 3,242.
Schmidt 2,321.

CITY COMPTROLLER
Carroll 45,704.

FOR CITY COUNCIL
(First six nominated)
Moore 21,439.
Thomson 28,611.
Fitzgerald 21,075.
Case 12,449.
Brown 14,234.
Marble 12,704.
Payson 11,821.
Hark 7,283.
Brumfiel 4,745.
Criswell 4,621.
Jones 2,256.
Platerman 1,484.
Richardson 1,829.

FOR CITY TREASURER
(First two nominated)
Terry 40,452.
Hyatt 6,885.
Gilbert 6,107.

Receiving the largest vote ever given a majority candidate in a primary election in Seattle, Miram C. Gill was re-nominated Monday with a comfortable margin over the combined vote of his three opponents. Austin E. Griffiths received second place, and will contest the final election with Gill on Tuesday, March 7.

Approximately 18,000 voters did not express themselves on mayor. Of this number, 13,000 didn't go to the polls at all, the other 5,000 registered.

If he hopes to overcome the Gill lead in the next two weeks, Griffiths will find it necessary to poll the united support of Erickson and Raymer voters, besides drawing on a large part of the vote which absented itself at Monday's primaries.

Caldwell Leads All
For corporation counsel, Hugh C. Caldwell led in a field of five, with James E. Bradford, the president of the corporation council, about 600 votes behind him.

Thomas F. Murphine ran third, Gibb was fourth and Schmidt, socialist, fifth.

Former Mayor William Hickman Moore led the 12 council candidates. The other five nominated are: R. H. Thomson, C. B. Fitzgerald, Otto A. Case, Dr. E. J. Brown and Charles Marble.

Ed Terry easily led for treasurer, with W. C. Hyatt second.

Little Excitement
The campaign was devoid of excitement. There was little speech-making, and most of the candidates were well known.

Gill's remarkable vote is attributed largely to the so-called "high and low" tax issue, which was precipitated during the winter when the council, led by Erickson, got into a controversy with the mayor.

There were 53,640 votes cast out of a total registration of over 75,000.

Mayor Gill heard returns at the policemen's ball at the Hippodrome, then, at midnight, went with his family to Chauncey Wright's and ate a big steak.

TEN DEAD, 16 HURT, IN WRECK

New Haven Passenger Train Runs Into Derailed Cars

NEAR MILFORD, CONN.

NEW YORK, Feb. 22.—In the first serious wreck on the New Haven system in many months, three trains today piled up near Milford, Conn., killing six passengers and four trainmen and injuring 16 other persons.

Passenger train No. 79, bound for New York, had stopped near Milford because of defective air brakes.

A special passenger train following crashed into the rear, turning over the engine of the special and the last coach of the stalled train.

A moment later, a New York-bound freight on the next track hurtled into the wreckage, piling up the freight and blocking all tracks.

The injured were picked up by a fourth train and taken 12 miles back to Bridgeport.

CUPID CALLS ON THE STAR STAFF

The Star office looked like a matrimonial clearing house Tuesday.

Radiant young women led willing young men right to the editor and gave themselves up as candidates for The Star's leap year wedding, to be performed on the stage at the Strand theatre, at high noon, February 29.

Looks like we'll have to draw straws.

Don't be discouraged, tho, if you have proposed to a man, girl, or grab him tonight and lead him to The Star office.

You still have a chance to get a free license, a wedding ring, a breakfast, life passes to the Strand, flowers and a big cake—maybe a lot of other things. We can't tell yet just how much.

GIVES UP WIFE TO BECOME U. S. CITIZEN

SAN BERNARDINO, Feb. 22.—George Alexander, an Englishman, got a divorce from his wife, Maude, today, in order that he might become a citizen of the United States.

THOSE HIGHBALLS MAKE 'EM WOBBLY

PORTLAND, Feb. 22.—The grain alcohol highball is the most popular unlawful drink in Portland. Officers have found numerous drunks in a peculiar and very wobbly condition. Doctors advised the police to look for contraband stores of pure alcohol.

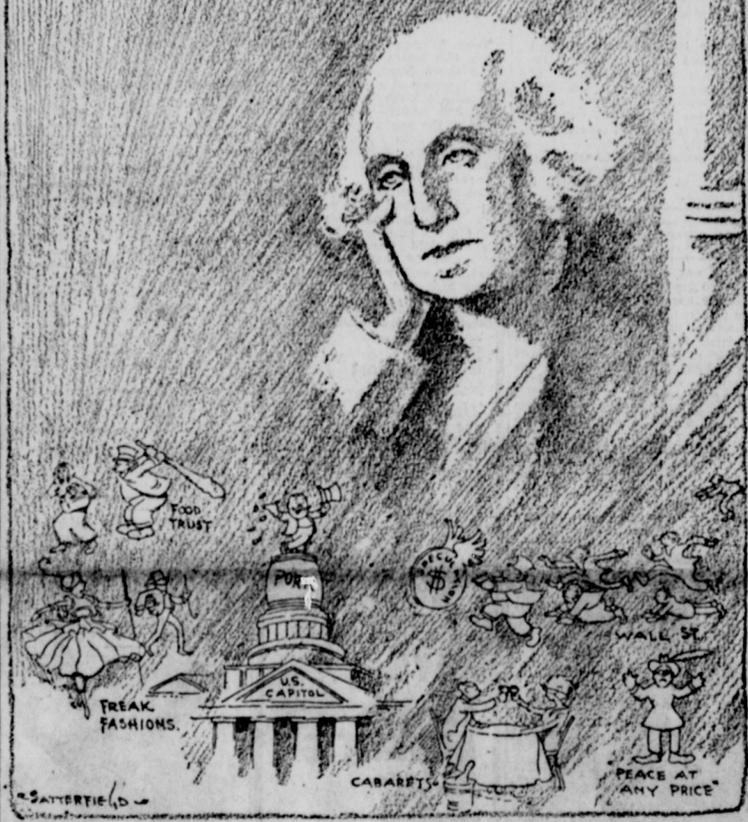
ARE YOU READING THE STORY OF LITTLE 'LIBERTY' TEACHER?

"The 'Liberty Teacher,' severely work-garbed and weather-draggled, jerked herself from the small mirror that was unkind to you at your best. 'I'm sick of elevating the public,' she said to herself. 'I'm sick of working hard 51 weeks out of 52 for my board and lodging and car fare and shirt waists. I'm sick of libraries and being efficient. I want to be a real girl. Oh, I wish—I wish I had a lot of money, and a rose garden, and a husband * * *'"

"Does she get her wish? Well, if you started 'The Rose Garden Husband' in The Star Monday you now are in a fair way toward finding out. It is the first of the \$1.50, book-sized popular novels that are to be published serially, each novel complete every week, in The Star. The second installment appears today on page 4. Next week, 'The Red Emerald,' by John Reed Scott.

AM I THE FATHER OF THIS?

An Imaginary Playlet in Seven Scenes



PROLOGUE
(Scene: Hithermost side of the River Styx. Old Doc Charon monkeying on a raft in mid-stream. Shade of George Washington discovered descending the bank.)

Shade: Hailoo, my good man! Come, take me to yon strand from whence I am departed. Hailoo! Hailoo!

Char: Can the big fuss, there, guy. This ain't no jitney bus. Shade: Your words are strangers, sir. But hurry! I would celebrate my natal day. When I was yet alive, I was a notable in my native land.

Char: Don't kid the help. Get on the float. And don't blow out the gas. Sit down. Don't rock the boat.

Shade: I'm going back—Char: He's going back.

Shade: To see my native health again—Char: Poor nut!

Shade: To mingle with my countrymen.

SCENE I.
(The Shade of the Father of His Country enters Washington, D. C.)

Congressman (kneeling): Give us this day our daily bread, our slice of pork, another tidewater postoffice site, submerged. (Rising): How times have changed since father was a boy!

SCENE II.
(The Shade takes a slant at Wall street.)

Chorus: The dough! The dough!

Shade: What do you here? One of the Chorus: This is Washington's birthday. We're celebrating. Not much business today. Just sold a congressman to the Bank & Southwestern railroad.

Shade: Am I Father of this?

SCENE III.
(Shade laments the fashions of the street.)

Shade: These women must be wading.

Woman: Sir? This is the latest mode. Back to the farm!

Shade: Am I a dad to this?

SCENE IV.
(Shade wanders into a cabaret.)

Entertainers (singing): When old Bill Ball-ee plays his Ukulele—

Shade: What song is this? Girl at table: Hullo, dad! Sit down! Buy a drink? This is Washington's birthday, y'know. Ever hear the one about the cherry tree?

Shade (aside): At last I've found some one who knows. (Aloud): Let's hear you tell it.

Girl: Cut it, kid. Say, I ain't a camel.

Shade: Am I Father of this?

SCENE V.
(Shade arrives in Seattle.)

Doc Sydney Strong: This is no time for preparedness! Peace, oh, Peace!

Shade: You seem sorry, my good man.

Doc: Indeed, yes. I am arrayed with a great set of martyrs—Bryan, Murja and Ford—peacemakers all, but misunderstood.

Shade: Am I Father of this?

SCENE VI.
(Shade discovers Clarence Gerald a campaign hand wagon.)

Shade: Let me hasten back to other worlds.

Clarence: It isn't like it used to was—! The Prohibition bee can buzz. Sweet libertee I was some candi-date. Please note I got my lady barbers' vote.

Shade: Charon! Hailoo, my man! Come take me back to other worlds. Has some changes since George Washington was born. Poor George would be an awful quince today.

Shade: Come, pilot me across the Styx; this is no place for me. My countrymen think I'm a fish.

They say, Get on the boat; you're right, old top. The world's all bunk, much more than you have said. Diogenes's lantern's lost its wick long years ago. You're better off quite dead.

Fleeing Seattle millionaires, wealthy bankers and prominent officials out of thousands of dollars by an ingeniously devised blackmailing scheme by which the victims were secretly photographed in compromising scenes, a syndicate of "badger" artists, said to have been counseled and advised by two Seattle attorneys, is today facing wholesale arrests.

Warrants have already been issued for the arrest of two women. Several further arrests are to be made.

Upon information furnished to Prosecutor Lundin by Sheriff Hally, who has been on the trail of the alleged blackmailers for several weeks, the arrests of Lillian Peterson of Billings, Mont., and Isabel Claberg of Los Angeles have been ordered. Officials in these cities were duly wired to that effect.

These women are specifically accused of blackmailing a wealthy Seattle lumberman.

Millionaires, multi-millionaires and men of national as well as international affairs are said to be among the victims.

According to the confession, the two women worked hand-in-hand here with a prominent firm of attorneys in luring the wealthy "dopes" to handsomely furnished houses situated in various parts of the city, where, by clever manipulation, photographs were made of the victims in compromising situations.

Fabulous sums of money, frequently as much as \$10,000 and \$15,000, it is declared, were obtained when the victims were confronted with the photographs and were sold the negatives.

Victim List Reads Like Blue-Book

The list of victims reads like a "blue-book" of Seattle society.

Actual photographs of some of the most prominent men in financial and commercial affairs here, bankers, owners of downtown skyscrapers, and others, are held in the sheriff's office as evidence against the several persons to be arrested.

The alleged gang has operated all up and down the Pacific coast, it is charged. Warrants are to be asked for by Sheriff Hodge and Deputy Hally for the arrest of several other women. Arrest of the higher-ups in the affair is a matter of hours, it is said.

The syndicate has operated under protection from the police, according to the woman confessor.

The story of the plot and its unfolding, of the quiet, cautious investigations by Deputy Sheriff Hally, reads like fiction.

If all the alleged facts gathered by Hally during the last two months, which led up to the woman's final confession, prove true, the greatest tale of crime in the history of the Pacific coast has been brought to light.

Chance Remark Starts Investigation

George Healey, a county jail prisoner, as he was being booked for alleged burglary, eight weeks ago, muttered the remark:

"This is a frame-up on the part of Chief Lang and Detective Humphries to get me. I know too much about them."

Deputy Hally, in the days following, questioned Healey concerning his reasons for making such a statement.

Healey, in the course of his talks with Hally, said he had equipped a house on Belmont ave., with a secret device for taking photographs.

A woman had engaged him, he told Hally, to perform the carpenter work.

Rig Up Camera to Take Bedroom Pictures

He had made a secret camera room under the stairway, he said, and had cut a hole thru the wall looking into a bedroom. With the camera placed in position, a photograph of the interior of the bedroom could be obtained.

Hally made a thoro investigation, found the "plant" as Healey had described it, and called the woman to the sheriff's office.

She admitted she had been a member of the "badger" syndicate and revealed, in several successive interviews, the names of other members as well as those of the persons victimized.

One victim, Hally says the woman told him, had been followed by the gang for two years. Their efforts to "land" him took them half way around the globe, but he finally "fell," it is said, for \$10,000.

Another, a prominent banker, is said to have been blackmailed to the extent of \$5,000 on one occasion, after he had been shown a picture of himself and a young woman clasped in each other's arms. The next week, it is alleged, another photograph was taken of the same man in a compromising situation with another young woman, and he was again forced to pay a large sum as the price of silence.

How Rich Men Were Approached

After the photograph of a victim had been secured, a member of the law firm, it is said, would call the victim to his office.

There he was informed that thru another attorney his wife was about to start divorce proceedings. He was also told of the existence of the photograph, a copy of which he was shown, with the result that he invariably "came thru" with a large sum.

Nearly a score of women are said to be included in the group of "sirens." They worked not only in Seattle, it is said, but in nearly every other city on the Pacific coast and in Spokane.

The confession of the Belmont ave. woman in part follows:

About September, 1914, I went into the office of Mr. G——, to see him about collecting some insurance for me. While in the office, I saw Mr. S——, whom I had met some time before thru a Mrs. C——. Mr. S—— asked me to step

NATION TO ACT IN SUB WARFARE

President Determines Against Compromise, Is Report

WILL SEND NEW NOTE

GERMANY TO INSIST UPON CARRYING OUT SUBMARINE DECREE

BY CARL W. ACKERMAN United Press Staff Correspondent.

BERLIN, Feb. 22.—With Germany's patience toward America vanishing, not the slightest desire is manifest here to postpone operation of the Teutonic decree of warfare against armed merchantmen because of United States protest.

The popular feeling is that Americans must suffer the consequences if they embark on armed ships, instead of seeking passage upon neutral, unarmed vessels.

The patience Germany displayed toward America during the Lusitania negotiations no longer exists, because the popular feeling is that America already has hindered so many of Germany's plans.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—The administration today practically decided to end the informal conferences between Secretary Lansing and German Ambassador Von Bernstorff over diplomatic questions and to dispatch a formal note to Germany, emphasizing the need for unequivocal assurances about Teutonic submarine warfare.

The only thing that can intervene to frustrate this plan is the arrival of definite assurances that the Teuton proclamation of warfare against armed merchantmen will not become effective March 1, as ordered.

Moreover, Germany must make such assurances square with the promises given during the Lusitania negotiations.

Authorities expressed concern over the receipt of anonymous warnings by American passengers booked to sail Thursday from New York on the French liner Espagne.

The president conferred last night with Chairman Stone and Flood of the senate and house foreign committees, and is now prepared to co-operate with congress in every step of the future negotiations with Germany.

Secretary of State Lansing and the president conferred today for half an hour at the White House on the Lusitania situation, but Lansing, upon leaving, refused to say what they had discussed.

Friends are putting pressure on the president to have him convey to the country a clear idea of the status of pending negotiations, exactly what is demanded by the U. S., and how long the administration is going to pursue its "diplomatic chase" in the Lusitania situation.

Senator Stone is preparing to make a speech in defense of the administration's course toward the decree.

It is understood the state department gave Stone information concerning its attempts to secure a promise from the allies that they would disarm merchantmen.

U. S. MAY HAVE 1,000,000 MEN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—America will have more than 1,000,000 trained soldiers in five years, if plans of house leaders materialize. The military committee's plan calls for the following:

Increase of the regular army to 150,000 men.

Increase of the militia, under federalization, to 425,000.

A reserve of 75,000 regulars and 100,000 militiamen thru annual retraining.

This plan would provide for nominal state control for drafting the militia in case of war, and would provide federalized training.

FIST BLOW CRACKS SKULL IN FIGHT

After a row in the Forge hotel, 1755 First ave. S., C. C. Ferland, age 58, lies in the city hospital Tuesday morning with a fractured skull, and C. F. Moran, a blacksmith, is being held by the police. Moran says he had a fist fight with Ferland and that Ferland threatened him with a butcher knife.

JURY TAKES UP CASE

WAUKEGAN, Ill., Feb. 22.—The grand jury here will start on March 6 to consider the case of William Orpet, accused of murdering his sweetheart, Marian Lambert, a high school girl.

ERICKSON WRITES A LETTER TO STAR

Editor The Star: Please accept my thanks for the courtesy extended to me and my committee during the primary campaign. I also wish to express my appreciation of the work done by the volunteers who worked so faithfully because of their interest in our publicly owned city utilities. I like to feel that no effort for the common good is lost. Our defeat at this time is but temporary. The campaign for public ownership will continue until all public utilities have been taken out of private hands.

OLIVER T. ERICKSON.

Today cloudy, and occasionally threatening tomorrow.

Fathers, Brothers, Sons—

There's a message for you on page 6 in today's Star on the big, vital subject of life insurance. It contains some mighty good food for thought. Don't miss it.

(Turn to page 2, column 3)