

THE TACOMAS TIME

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING EXCEPT SUNDAY BY THE TACOMA TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY

Entered at the postoffice at Tacoma, Wash., as second-class matter

Business Office: Main 728, A1728; Circulation Dept.: Main 728, A1728; Editorial Dept.: Main 794, A1733

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: One cent a copy, seven cents a week by carrier or by mail; 30 cents a month by carrier or by mail; six months by mail, \$1.50; one year by mail, \$2.75.

THE TACOMA TIMES IS ONLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS: The date when your subscription expires is on the address label of each paper. When that date arrives, if your subscription has not again been paid in advance, your name is then from the list. A change of date on the address label is a receipt.

TACOMA CITIZENS SHOULD BLOCK THIS SCHEME TONIGHT

Do the people of Tacoma want their civil service system abolished and the city business turned over to wire-pulling politicians? If not then the citizens should be at the council chamber tonight and sit down hard on the partisan manipulators in the city council who are trying to kill civil service, boost councilmanic salaries and block the commission plan of government.

There are some men in the council who are not a party to this deal. Reed is against it. Hawley is against it. Giblett and Stambaugh have both declared emphatically against it. But there is a bunch of scheming councilmen at hand who have been trying for a year to throttle civil service, get control of all the city jobs for their friends and relatives and who are taking this method of doing it.

The registration is going to be very light this spring. Not one in four of the voters at the present rate will be eligible to vote when election day comes. The politicians are the fellows who are registering. The great common people who want good government are not on the books and in this situation the wire-pullers think they may be able to slip their character amendments through this spring and get control of all the patronage of the city.

The time to kill this scheme of it is right now. There is no necessity for any of these proposed amendments to the charter. Under the civil service the city departments have been building up an efficient corps for several years. There is only one reason on earth why it should be knocked out now and that is because some politicians want the jobs.

The men in the city departments today hold their jobs by good service and by that only. And they are working hard. They know that they will hold their jobs just as long as they do good work. And every man, whether in public or private enterprise, should be guaranteed that security. It means efficiency and conscientious service.

To abolish the civil service now would mean that the places would be filled with political henchmen. They would operate under the spoils system. They would realize that there was no security in their positions and that they would be marked for expulsion should the administration change in two years. There would be every incentive to grab and graft all that was possible while in the place for there would be no guaranty of their staying long. And the people would have to foot the bills for all this.

The water and light departments today are money-making propositions for the city. They are giving the people good service at low cost.

Why should this condition be disturbed? The people who do not want it changed should go to the city hall tonight and smother the scheme in its inception. The proposition to cut the councilmen to nine is simply a bluff to head off the commission plan of government. The councilmen backing this scheme know if the commission plan comes in they will forever retire to private life. There will be no need for ward heevers and political clackers for municipal government will be divorced from politics.

The initiative and referendum and the recall will also be features and if a politician should get in the people would have a grip on him and be able to yank him out in short order. This condition does not appeal to the peanut politicians in and out of the council and they want to head it off. They think the reduction in the number of councilmen will possibly do it. Councilman Wilkeson recently gave the whole thing away when he said this would be "a commission plan."

As a matter of fact it would be worse than the present plan. With a lot of councilmen the people do get some consideration. With a few upon whom they have no power of recall the tendency would be to form councilmanic rings and ignore the people. Unless the recall and initiative and referendum are in force a large council will be more representative than a small one. The schemers have figured it all out and they know what they are doing.

It is time for the people to get busy.

THE ONE DRINK TOO MUCH

The captain of the battleship Georgia, on the cruise around the world, has been court-martialed for being drunk at a reception on shore at Gibraltar.

It raises a question as to what a naval officer is expected to do at a reception. What are receptions to naval officers for, anyway? Temperance has its undeniable virtues. The man who gets drunk on duty, particularly if his duty be so responsible as that of commanding a battleship, cannot be too severely censured or too strictly punished.

But the taking of a drink or two too much at a reception on shore is an entirely different case.

From time beyond reckoning receptions to army and navy officers have been attended by heavy drinking. It is a world-wide custom, and the officer who would decline to drink would very likely be regarded as a churl.

Many naval men, no doubt, are displeased with the custom. It often places them under tremendous strain. They are expected to drink copiously, and upon their ability to withstand the effects depends in a sense the honor of the United States government. It is a poor test, perhaps, but it prevails.

If the captain of the Georgia drank too much, he is only a victim of an established custom, which is countenanced by all naval men the world over. The remedy will never be found in publicly disgracing or otherwise punishing the man. It lies only in abolishing the custom. A court-martial, trying a man for drinking at a reception, and made up of men who have themselves repeatedly drunk at receptions, is very much of a farce. The navy department may take it seriously, but the public cannot.

The accused captain declares that he was not intoxicated, but was tired out. He ought not to have offered that defense. He ought to have set up the plea that if he was not drunk, he ought to have been. He was probably very lonesome, if sober.

It is easy to say that a man ought to nicely measure his drinks at banquets and elsewhere. But with most men it is more easily said than done. The ancient imbecile who sought to gauge the height of a flood by a chalk mark on his boat was in very much the same condition as the average man, who, having embarked on the sea of liquor, tries to decide when he has had enough.

TIMES EDITOR IS HONORED BY TACOMA TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION

The following official notice from E. J. Leavelle, secretary of the local Typographical union, was received by the editor of the Times today:

"At the last regular meeting of the Tacoma Typographical union, held on January 31, 1909, by unanimous vote your name was placed on the rolls as an Honorary Member of this union, because of your sympathy and well wishes for the cause of unionism.

"Fraternally yours, E. J. LEAVELLE, Sec.-Treas."

TIMES' HUMOR DEPARTMENT

AN OSGAR-UND-ADOLF PLEASANTRY



Osgar: Und here is Andy Carmockee, who gifes dose metals to heroes, yet. Adolf: Blessa, vot iss a hero, already? Osgar: Obese ox! A hero iss a feller, for instance, ad a fire, who gifes hiss name by der pabers in. Adolf: Vell, I wass ad a fire, und der pabers dit nod mention me ad all. Osgar: Maybe you dit nod d'it anydings. Adolf: Ditt'd dit anydings! Why, man, I stardet der fire!

AN EXAMPLE IN LOW COMEDY



Tessie: Dear me, this stake life is beginning to tell on me. The Clown: Well, if it tells all it knows, it will make a sensation!

BEST EXTERMINATOR OR ROACHES TURNS 'EM INTO PLASTER CASTS

When the cockroach once enters a household the housekeeper's resources are taxed to the utmost to find a way of getting rid of the large family he soon has at his heels.

Mamma Roach hatches 16 eggs at a time, and the children are exceedingly lively from the moment of birth.

Poison is of no use as an exterminator of these pests, for the sly insects will refuse to eat it. A powder of quicklime and Persian powder scattered about the places they frequent, will thin them out. The powder fills the little holes through which the insects breathe and suffocates them.

But a method both original and inexpensive has been found highly successful. Equal parts of plaster of paris and flour, with a little sugar added, should be placed on a plate in a cupboard or corner infested by the roaches. Near it

sects will devour the plaster and place a second plate filled with water. Connect the plates with little bridges of wood, to serve as a way for the roaches. The insects will devour the plaster and then cross over and drink the water. As a consequence the pests be transformed into tiny plaster casts.

MR. SKYGACK FROM MARS.

He visits the Earth as a Special Correspondent and Makes Writings in His Notebook.

AT LATE HOUR SAW PAIR OF EARTH-BEINGS STANDING IN HOUSE AT FOREMOST DOOR. MANY TIMES MALE EARTH-BEING TRIED TO LEAVE, BUT DID NOT SUCCEED. RESUMED TIGHT GRIP ON FEMALE. OFTEN PLACED FACES IN CLOSE CONTACT, PRODUCING SHARP SNACK SOUND. BOTH SEEMED VICTIMS OF PUZZLING AILMENT.



A Word from OJsh Wise.



Are we to have a Billy Possum craze to replace the Teddy Bear?

California has probably made up its mind not to declare war on Japan, for some days.

Booking agent tried to sign Jack Binns for a 40-week contract in vaudeville at \$1000 a week, but the hero of the Republic sent a C. O. D. wireless and Marconi rushed to his rescue.

The International Postal union has agreed that all stamps of a color shall possess the same value. Green stamps represent one cent in American money, red stamps two cents and blue stamps five cents. Stamps for foreign communication must bear Arabic numeral of their denomination.

The royal chess board of Europe holds but one queen—Wilhelmina of Holland.

Promoters of guessing contests should bar the weather man.

The recent issue of 2,000,000 two-cent stamps, bearing Washington's profile, lacks the Arabian numeral provided for by International Postal union.

In England and Wales there are 5,978,967 school children registered; in Scotland 806,737, and in Ireland 728,167.

England and Wales have 20,907 schools; Ireland has 8602 and Scotland 3206.

Some imaginative New Jersey man left his "castles in Spain" to John D. Rockefeller. Huh, John would have had them long ago if they had been worth taking.

California and Nevada do not like the Japs. This is very eccentric indeed, in view of the love the Russians, the Chinese, the Koreans, the Australians and, in fact, all who have come in contact with the Japs bear them.

Rowland Hill of England founded the modern postal system.

A star by any other name may be just as bright, but she doesn't get as many press notices.

Paderewski had to give up playing the piano on account of a split finger nail. If he were a bricklayer he would have to stay right on the job.

A convention at Berne, Switzerland, in 1874, where 22 states were represented, fixed the rates of international postage.

Ben Franklin, while postmaster general, made every postoffice bring in a clear revenue.

President will probably O. K. Chief Wilkie's request for more salary, but congress isn't sweet on the secret service just now.

He: Think your father'd kick if I married you? She: Can't say about pa, but I would.

The Italian description of Roosevelt, "gigantic foreigner," dovetails neatly with the American "big noise."

When the king of England visits the Indian empire he is saluted with 101 guns.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

AMERICAN WOMEN WHO WORK NO. 11—THE BOOK AGENT.



REHEARSALS

REHEARSALS for the Elks' big musical comedy, "A Night in Bohemia," commenced last Monday evening in the rooms of the Elks' club, under the direction of Rufus K. Love, the famous stage manager. About forty of the best amateur artists in the city were assembled at the initial rehearsal, and as many more will be secured before regular-chorus work is begun. The musical travesty will be presented at the Tacoma theater on the evenings of February 26 and 27. There will be from thirty to forty song hits and bright specialties. The big rehearsal will be held this evening in the Elks' club rooms. Any amateurs who have not yet applied, still have the opportunity of joining the company.

THE SOUTH SIDE IMPROVEMENT CLUB will hold a social meeting tomorrow evening to commemorate the centennial of Lincoln's birth. Charles E. George will be the principal speaker, his talk including the life and work of the martyred president. After the speaking a box luncheon will be served by the ladies. The celebration will be held in the South Side hall, Fifty-sixth and South L streets, and all are cordially invited.

COMPLIMENTARY to all the college women in the city, the Tacoma Collegiate Alumnae association has made arrangements for a large reception to be held Monday afternoon, February 22, at the home of Mrs. Walter Vose Gulick, North Eighth and L streets. The hours will be from 2 to 5.

THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY of Park Universalist church will give a valentine party tomorrow evening, in the parlors of the church, Division avenue and K street. A most unique and entertaining program has been arranged by the committee, consisting of Mesdames Sam Pool, Rudow, Wilcox, W. C. Albee, D. Dohr, H. J. Gielens and Gardner Pool.

INVITATIONS have been issued by company A. Second infantry of the National Guard of Washington, for their eleventh annual ball, to be held February 22, at the new state armory. The grand march, led by the highest officers of the company, will start promptly at 8:45 o'clock.

THE PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL meets next Saturday afternoon at 2:30 in the lumberman's room of the Tacoma hotel. A constitution and bylaws will be adopted and reports from the Ferry Museum fund committee and the committee on the A.-Y.-P. exhibit will be read.

THE UNITED ARTISANS will entertain this evening at Macca-bees hall in honor of Lincoln's birthday. Mayor John W. Linck will be the principal speaker of the evening. Dancing and refreshments will be the features. All are invited.

THE KADHIEVIATORS will give the fourth of their winter dancing parties at the Bonneville this evening.

THE FIRST REHEARSAL of the opera, "The Chimes of Normandy," to be sung by local talent, at the Tacoma theater April 13, was held last evening at the old Elks' hall on C street.

THE YOUNG LADIES' CLUB of St. Leo's church will give a dancing party tomorrow evening at Sloan's academy, North Second and I streets.

THE LOGAN SOCIAL CLUB will meet this afternoon with Mrs. A. Coolidge, 27 South C street.

Feminine wiles and intuition added to the usual diplomacy of the book agent make the woman who solicits subscriptions well nigh irresistible.

Graceful, charming and well dressed, with a certain air of self-assurance that is not bold at all, the woman agent walks up and is admitted where legions of male solicitors before her may have met defeat.

From necessity she is everlastingly bent on making a good impression, and generally succeeds. Who but she is so suave of manner and smooth of speech, and who so ardently sympathetic? She listens alike in apparent absorption to tales of rheumatic tortures and stories of cherished ambition.

Her conquest is first of the heart, then of the confidence, and at departure she generally carries away a new signature in her order book.

The income of the professional book agent varies widely. One week's toil has been known to net the agent as high as \$200. But of course the ordinary agent does not nearly approach this figure. An average net earning of \$12 to \$18 a week for the woman agent is a safe estimate. While many exceed this figure there are many more who fall below it.

A strong point in recommendation of the book agent's profession is the healthfulness of the occupation. The fresh air and plenty of exercise which goes with the canvassing business is most beneficial to women. Nervous ailments not infrequently vanish altogether, while the general system is toned up remarkably.

Philipp was busily engaged with his lot during the next week. He did not hesitate to call in his father's assistance with the planting.

"You're sure I ain't injuring them, Philipp?" asked the elder man. "You're sure my hands ain't got no bugs or microbes?"

"The arrival of the bill for fertilizer was a surprise. "Seems to me, Phil, you'll hev to raise melons, the size of pumpkins to win out," said the elder. But Philipp kept his own counsel. And sure enough, in time a multitude of green sprouts appeared.

"They certainly do look flourishing," admitted Branscombe. "But, say, Phil, I thought melons grew on vines. D'you think them sprouts is going to turn into vines?"

"I guess you'll hev to bend them. I tell you what it is, my boy. It's them new fertilizers. You've forced them so strong you're going to raise giant melons on trees." They grew taller as the days passed, aspiring to the sky, shunning the inviting bosom of the earth. And by the end of the third week it became obvious that whatever they were, they certainly were not melons of the usual variety.

"Well, I guess you've got me beaten, dad," the boy confessed at last, swallowing his chagrin. "Shall I go back to school or stay with you and work off that debt for the fertilizer?"

Branscombe laid his hand on his son's shoulder. "Philipp, he said, 'I've been doing some thinking, too. You see, when I noticed how interested you got in your work, I figured out that there might be something after all in what you said about old-fashioned ways. I've generally found that there's some germ of truth in the most fool statement. Only, you didn't put it to me just right. So if you like to stay here with me we'll call that bill square and try to arrange a working compromise by putting our heads together.'

"I wish I knew why they didn't come up right, though," cried his son. "I'll tell you, Phil," said the old man. "Next time you want to grow watermelons, don't plant sunflowers."

"Plant them," said Philipp. "And manure the ground properly, and let me look after those two acres

Myers Co., 917 C st. Wall paper.

Playtime Stories

THE LOST TULIP BULB.

Years ago, away off in Holland, where they have great windmills, and the people wear funny wooden shoes, they used to give prizes to the man who could raise the finest kind of tulips. It didn't matter how poor the man was, or how rich, if he could cultivate a tulip that was different from any other he would get a big prize.

So Holland, which is a very flat country, was almost covered with beautiful tulip gardens. Some people put great stone walls around their gardens so no one could look over and see what kind of tulips they were growing.

Then one time they had a fair, and everybody brought their tulips which they had been raising. And what do you think, the man who had the most wonderful tulip, which he called "William of Orange," took the prize of \$5000.

The man who had bought the one little bulb which was to grow more of these wonderful tulips left it to be sent to him, and it was carefully laid away in a great warehouse.

When after a while the man who was to pack the bulb went to get it—what do you think—it was gone! He searched everywhere and could not find it. So he asked a workman who was eating his lunch alone there if he had seen it. He said no, and that nobody had been in there but himself.



The workman said that nobody had been in there but himself.

Then he said: "There was nothing here when I came in but a little old onion, and I ate it with my lunch." Children, he had eaten that wonderful tulip worth so much money, and he thought it was an onion!