

## RAILROADS USING CHURCH AS A CLUB

EDITOR The Press: In an editorial entitled "Better Vote It Down," published in the Chronicle October 21, statements are made to the effect that the proposed amendment to the constitution relating to taxation would prevent the exemption of church property, and that it is favored by the railroad corporations. Both statements are calculated to mislead the voters in regard to this question. The present constitution does not in terms permit exemptions of churches or any other property of that character; on the contrary, the present constitution requires that all property in the state shall be taxed. Nor is there any decision of the supreme court which directly holds that such exemptions can be made. The only expression of the court on the subject is that made in a case deciding that the exemption of \$500 worth of personal property could not be made, in discussing which case the court said that exemptions of churches might possibly be permitted, because the constitution provides for the exemption of public property, and such other property as the legislature may exempt. It held that "such other property" referred to property of like character to that specified, that is, of like character with public property, and intimated that church property used for public purposes might be deemed to be of a quasi-public character. But this was not involved in the case before the court, and was not decided by it.

But even if the present constitution should be construed in this way in a question directly involving the exemption of church property, it is clear that such exemptions could not be extended so as to include property not used for religious purposes. And it was, no doubt, with this in mind that the legislature passed the law relating to the exemptions of Y. M. C. A. property. That law reads, after exempting public burying ground, etc.:

"Also all property of Young Men's Christian Associations which shall be wholly used, or to the extent solely used, for the religious purpose of such association."

It is clear that there was no intention to exempt that property of the Y. M. C. A. which is not solely used for religious purposes, and that the property used for restaurants, lodging house, gymnasium, etc., by that association is not now exempt. Furthermore, it could not be made so, under the present constitution.

Those who are opposing the amendment because they believe that it might cause the property of churches, and, particularly, the Y. M. C. A., to be taxed, labor under a mistake as to two particulars. They are mistaken in supposing that the property of the Y. M. C. A. is now legally exempt, whereas, if the law were enforced, the property of that association would be taxed. And they are mistaken in supposing that the present constitution permits of the exemption of that kind of property, and that the amendment would prevent it, whereas, the fact is that the present constitution forbids it, and the amendment would enlarge the powers of the legislature as to exemptions and such property could be exempted in compliance with law.

It must be apparent to any one that those who have led the managers of church property and the Y. M. C. A. to oppose the amendment have misled them to act directly contrary to the interest of those organizations. But when it is understood whose interest is really served by their opposition, the identity of those who have influenced the unsuspecting to their injury is made certain.

It is well known that the railroads are actively opposing the amendment, and to that end have special agents traveling over the state and exciting opposition to it. This fact has been known to the state for months. Nor is this without reason on their part. The managers of the railroads well understand that if the amendment is passed, the power of the legislature to make exemptions will be enlarged. And they know that so long as the people can influence

the legislature, no exemptions of railroad property will be made; but that exemptions will tend to be such as favor the farmers and wage earners. Such exemptions might indirectly increase the taxes paid by the railroads. With so good a reason for opposing the amendment, the opposition of the railroads was to be expected, but the manner in which they have exerted their influence is not so generally understood.

Every one knows that the Northern Pacific and Great Northern railroads are under the management of Mr. Hill. It was through a high dignitary of the church with which Mr. Hill is intimately connected, and who is himself an intimate friend of Mr. Hill, that the opposition of church influence to the amendment was first manifested. It was the attempt of this dignitary to influence the managers of the Y. M. C. A. in Seattle that revealed the secret influence of the railroads in exciting church opposition to the amendment.

As the opposition of the Y. M. C. A. to the amendment can not benefit, but, on the contrary, must injure that organization, it is clear that the motive for exciting such opposition was to use that organization for the purpose of serving the railroad.

That those who desire the exemption of church property should be misled into opposing the amendment is deplorable, since the result can only be that they will be defrauded of their votes and induced to use them directly in opposition to the interest which they wish to serve. George N. Maddock.

## EVERLASTING TARIFF PLANK

JONES SAYS DEBILITATED POSITION IS THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY AND FOREVER—YOUNG DEMS. DOWN TO BUSINESS.

The floodgates of democratic oratory and enthusiasm were again opened last night in the municipal courtroom when the Young Men's Democratic club got together for their weekly pow-wow. Strange to relate, last night's meeting was marked by lovely peace and harmony, which someone attributed to the fact that Fred Schade was kept outside the railing. Bruce Blake was the presiding officer.

A number of republicans were present, but they were not of the fighting kind; on the contrary, some member of the g. o. p. in the audience was clever enough, on being interrogated by the chief speaker, W. C. Jones, as to his views on several propositions, to reply in every instance, "that's right." He sat quite a distance from the door and took no chances.

Mr. Jones said he held practically the same views on public questions today that he did before uniting with the democratic party in 1896. He illustrated his point by stating that he drew the tariff plank that appeared in the republican state platform of 1894 and had the same inserted, without so much as the change of a comma, in the democratic state platform of 1908. He said the people had overlooked the fact that the republican state platform of 1908 had asked for a state law guaranteeing, bank deposits, but had sidestepped the issue since the national convention failed to toe the mark.

"Harper's Weekly asked in its last issue, 'What is this campaign about? All there is about it is that the democratic platform contains everything that Bob LaFollette tried to get into the republican platform, and oh, how the steam roller did run over him.'"

Other speakers were Russell F. Collins, who told of the injustice of making the American farmer pay more for his farming implements than the same are sold for abroad, thus handicapping American farmers, whose products are forced to enter into competition in the world's markets with those of the foreign agriculturist who buys

## CLOSE AND RUNAWAY PRESIDENTIAL CONTESTS OF PAST 50 YEARS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Presidential contests of the last 50 years, as a rule, have not been close. The one notable exception to the rule was the election of 1876, when Hayes had 185 and Tilden 184 electoral votes. The next closest margin figured in the election of 1884, when the electoral vote stood Cleveland 219, Blaine 182, a plurality for Cleveland of 37. In that year New York would have turned the balance, and Blaine lost it by a few hundred votes. In 1880 Garfield had a majority in the electoral college of 59 over Hancock, and in 1888 Harrison defeated Cleveland by 65. Cleveland came back in 1892 with a majority of 132. McKinley defeated Bryan in 1896 by a majority of 95, and in 1900 by 137.

The most one sided election was in 1864, when Lincoln defeated McClellan, 212 to 21. Grant defeated Greeley 286 to 42, and next in order of bigness was Roosevelt's victory over Parker, when the score was 336 to 140.

## WOMAN CLOWN SAYS PAIN IS BEST LAUGH-BRINGER



MISS KIMBALL, AS SHE REALLY IS AND IN HER CLOWN TOGS.

Special Correspondence to The Press NEW YORK, Oct. 23.—Miss Maud Kimball, who is very pretty off the stage and very ugly on it, claims to be the first real woman clown in America.

Once she was a Nebraska school teacher. Now her work is to "raise laughs" at the Hippodrome.

One of her chief duties is to eat a dozen apples a day, and half as many carrots. These she carries in a large handbag, for Miss Kimball acts the part of a "rube." Her dress is a caricature on all the latest styles, including a wig of very red puffs and a Grecian knot. With Marcelline, a famous clown, she walks, stumbles and tumbles around the big stage, and appears to have an extraordinary amount of interest in all that is going on.

That's all. She doesn't say a word, but she gets the laughs. "It pays better to be a member

of the ballet than to be a school teacher," says Miss Kimball. "I started on the stage in the chorus, and it is only through accident that I became a clown. A school teacher has a hard time to exist on the pay she gets, but a ballet girl can make very good wages. In fact, she can often make twice what a teacher can in a country school."

"As a clown, the most important discovery I have made is that pain or distress is more likely to raise a laugh than real humor. An audience howls with glee because I stub my toe and come near getting run over. That's the reason I have learned to 'do a fall.' The audience thinks it the greatest kind of sport."

"Being a clown is still new to me, and I am interested in the psychology of the laugh. It is much harder to be the public's fool than I thought it would be."

his American machinery for less money. Lester P. Edge saw in the delayed decision of the Spokane rate case a play at republican politics. The decision, he said, is held over until after the election in order not to arouse any hostilities that might injure Taft in the campaign.

O. J. Seville, candidate for prosecuting attorney, resented imputations as to his qualifications, coming, he understood, from Fred Pugh, his republican opponent. George E. Stone, candidate for sheriff, brought glad tidings from the country and said if the city did its part victory was assured. Dr. Frank Taylor, for coroner, said he was against the undertakers' trust in the coroner's office. Other speakers were D. A. Clement, the candidate for clerk; J. Dow, for constable; P. B. Keane, the Irrepressible; Dr. Newman, and Paul Pattison, of Colfax.

A madonna face requires the hair parted in the middle.

Six stocks hardware, 3 general stocks of merchandise in the country; several grocery stores in the city; cigar stores to burn. Room 2, Wolverson blk., Main 3024. \*\*\*

**BUY YOUR XMAS GIFTS DURING OUR REMOVAL SALE**

We have reduced prices on our entire stock of jewelry for the next 10 days as we intend to open our new store in the old Kemp & Hebert location with all new goods. Prices are positively the lowest in the city for high quality goods.

17 JEWEL WALTHAM OR ELGIN WATCH \$7.50

C. E. STURGES Watchmaker, Engraver and Jeweler 813 RIVERSIDE AVE.

## CONCRETE ARCH FOR MONROE STREET

A Monroe street bridge constructed partly of concrete and partly of wood was the suggestion offered the city council last night by City Engineer Ralston.

As the excuse for this departure from anything before considered in connection with the construction Mr. Ralston said it would probably take a term of years to solve the problem and as the bridge should be put into commission as soon as possible, he suggested that the central arch be constructed of concrete and the rest of the bridge of timber temporarily. He declined to estimate the cost.

The cost of construction of an all-concrete bridge, which has varied at times and on different estimates from \$325,000 to \$800,000, will probably be cut in half by a proposition which Engineer Ralston said Jay P. Graves had submitted since returning from the east. This was that the Inland Empire Co. proposed to fill in its property at the south end of the bridge. Such a fill would shorten the bridge almost one half. The engineer declined to estimate the difference in cost.

Councilman Phillips hazarded a guess that the cost would probably be reduced 50 per cent.

The proposed fill would start where the W. W. P. power house now stands and extend beyond the west side of the bridge. The portal of the tunnel which the company intends to build would be west of the bridge instead of east of it, as has been contemplated heretofore. The power house would be protected by a heavy concrete wall. A matter of engineering importance which made the cost of the bridge uncertain in Mr. Ralston's mind is that an abutment of strength sufficient to withstand the strain of the great dirt dike would be necessary. The dike would be 130 feet high. The bridge then would be a solid roadway almost out to the center span.

Councilman Gray suggested leaving the present structure intact on the south and build the fill around it, but the engineer opposed this by saying it would be better to move the present steel structure elsewhere.

The engineer also enlightened the council as to plans of the North Coast railroad. He said he had received the proposed elevation and trend of the road across the river and the road was to pass directly under the proposed main arch of the bridge at an elevation which necessitated complete change of bridge plans now in course of preparation. In order to allow the North Coast line the required elevation it would be necessary for the bridge at the point of the main arch to be constructed 10 feet higher than first contemplated.

Mr. Ralston said neither railroad company had discussed the portion of the cost they would bear, but said he understood that the Graves people would pay for the fill and the North Coast for changes in elevation.

The council took no action in the matter.

## GIVEN UP FOR LOST

TACOMA, Oct. 23.—Hope of finding Fred W. Kloeber and Julius Kummie, who went hunting in the mountains Monday, was practically abandoned today. Forty men and four bloodhounds scouring the country within a radius of 10 miles from Green River hot springs failed to find trace.

NORTH YAKIMA, Oct. 23.—A large display advertisement in both morning and evening papers promising a reward for news of the whereabouts of a lost doll was a matter of much comment and the outward expression of a minor tragedy in the life of the little daughter of Mrs. John Harris of the Selah valley.

It was not the value of the doll, though the ad states that it had "real hair," but the value of the affection bestowed upon it by the child and her grief at its loss on the homeward drive from North Yakima along the Selah road, which prompted Mrs. Harris to give a neighbor \$20 and authorize him to spend it all, if necessary, in advertising the loss of the doll.

VICTIM OF CARD SHARPS Chris Schuler, of the Berlin hotel, was buncoed out of \$100 last night by two smooth card sharps, who "cold decked" him in a poker game in the Golden West saloon. After they secured his money they took him to the Stratford bar, a block away, and then disappeared.

Many women buy automobile coats to runabout in the rain.



# This Saturday Is Going to Be a Record Breaker at Wentworth's New Store

Special Inducements Are Offered in Every One of Our Three New Salesrooms.

Here's What's Doing in Our Bargain Basement

Famous 50c President Suspenders on sale at 39c a pair. \$10.00 waterproof mackintoshes on sale at \$5.00. Big assortment of tan and black cotton hose on sale at 15c a pair, 2 pairs for 25c. These hose are made by the Shawknit people. Pure outing flannel 75c night robes on sale at, each 55c. Beautiful \$1.25 negligee shirts on sale at, each 78c. Short lots in men's \$20.00 suits on sale at \$10.50, and many other bargains just as good await you.

### Features in Our First Floor Salesroom

Special display of \$25.00 brown suits just expressed to us by Mr. Wentworth from the east. These are the very latest creations as regards pattern and style. In our young men's cozy corner we are showing a new lot of suits and overcoats just received from the L. system. In our hat department we've a new lot of John B. Stetson hats on exhibition. In our haberdashery department we feature a big line of holiday neckwear, and here's what our second story salesroom has to offer. Fine Rugby football presented to each purchaser of a boys' suit or overcoat at \$5.00 or over. The famous 25c Ironclad stockings for boys on sale at 19c a pair, 3 pairs for 55c. Special display of ladies' silk raincoats and misses' reefers and long overcoats. These are tailored by men and are entirely different from anything shown in department stores. Prices \$9.00 to \$27.00. See our center show window display of brown Russian Blouse suits. It's certainly worth while.

Spokane's Greatest Men's and Boys' Outfitters

ESTABLISHED IN 1888

# Wentworth Clothing House

ENTRANCE—709, RIVERSIDE AVENUE



## MILLINERY SPECIAL

10 to 18 Hats, \$7.50

We have placed on special sale tomorrow a large number of hats just received from eastern style centers, which should sell from \$10 to \$18. Special price tomorrow, \$7.50.

\$5.00 semi-dress hats, \$2.75. Extra good values, chic styles.

**The VOGUE** Spokane's Big Millinery Store 917-919 RIVERSIDE

## BATTLE WITH A WHALE.

BELLINGHAM, Oct. 23.—In a desperate fight with a whale, six Indian fishermen almost lost their lives in Bellingham bay today. In a row boat they attacked a whale and attempted to kill it. The whale flopped, upsetting the boat, throwing the occupants in the water. Two were knocked unconscious from the blow of the whale's flukes. Their comrades rescued them.

## Special Sale of Dining Room Furniture One-Fourth Off

If you value your dollars don't overlook this opportunity to buy dining room furniture at bedrock prices. Our low expenses makes it possible for us at all times to undersell every other store in the city, and when we make a cut in price it means a tremendous saving.

DINING ROOM TABLES, CHAIRS, BUFFETS AND BOX DINERS AT SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS ON THE DOLLAR

# HEATERS

WOOD OR COAL

Wood Heaters, \$1.75 up  
Coal Heaters, \$2.50 up

Delivered and Set Up Free.

## Exchange Furniture Co.

LOW PRICES 922-24-26 SPRAGUE AVE. ALWAYS CHEAPEST

Don't Overlook Our Exchange Department. MAIN 2185. N. B.—If interested see big window display.

