

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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ADVENTIST ISSUES DEBATE CHALLENGE TO REV. HOLMES

Since Rev. A. A. Holmes without provocation bitterly attacked Seventh Day Adventists last Sunday at the Baptist church, and grossly misrepresented both them and myself, I feel that a statement of facts is due the people of Medford.

First. That on March 29 the following challenge was read in a public meeting in Brownsboro and then placed in my hands: Brownsboro, Ore., March 29, 1912.

I hereby challenge any Seventh-Day Adventist residing in the state of Oregon to meet me in public debate in the city of Medford, Oregon, at any fixed time within six months to debate on the following subject on which I will take the affirmative: Resolved, That Seventh-Day Adventism is a false religion because it teaches many false doctrines, three of them being as follows:

- 1. The Bible teaches the Christian does not now have an immortal soul which is conscious between death and the resurrection. 2. The Bible teaches that un-saved men will not suffer eternal conscious torment after the last resurrection. 3. The Bible teaches Christians should keep the seventh day Sabbath instead of the Lord's day, commonly called Sunday.

Second, that the above was formally accepted by the executive committee of Southern Oregon Conference S. D. A. August 14, and the acceptance forwarded to Mr. Holmes a few days later with the stipulation that three nights be used on each of the first two propositions and six on the third. October 15 was suggested as the date to begin the debate.

Third, that Mr. Holmes replied, agreeing to the date suggested providing he was not engaged in special meetings, though he expected so to be employed.

Fourth, that I then wrote Mr. Holmes that, if the date suggested was not satisfactory to him, a later date would suit me. To this letter he made no reply. Fifth, that on October 15 I came to Medford to meet him in debate, but found that he was in Oregon City. Waiting for him to return, I called on him October 19. He then stated that he had resigned, and had arranged his time up to the holidays, but was willing to have the debate soon after that, if possible.

Sixth, that I met him on the street a few days ago, when he postponed the debate indefinitely. Seventh, that I met him at the close of his attack on Adventists last Sunday forenoon and told him that there was now no way out of that debate. He said he could not stay and debate this week, but that he had made this attack because he was holding meetings here and he was going away. I told him then that, since he had made the challenge, and it had been accepted, and he had deferred debating, and had postponed it indefinitely, now to fire a shot like that before leaving was inexcusable. He then promised to return and meet me.

Eighth, that at his evening service he made statements which gave out the impression that I am afraid to meet him. Ninth, that I am here in the city, and ask Mr. Holmes to meet the issue which he himself has created, beginning December 16. There is but one way for him to get out of this now—that is to run.

GRANTS PASS HELPS ITSELF.

HAVING waited in vain for a score of years for the Southern Pacific to fulfill its promises and construct a railroad to the sea, the people of Grants Pass have finally awakened to the fact that if they secure a railroad they must start it themselves.

As a preliminary, a subscription has been raised to purchase the Draper survey, right-of-way and terminal grounds, and the city council has called a special election to submit to the voters the question of issuing city bonds for \$200,000 to construct the first section, which will reach the lime and shale deposits, where manufacturers agree to erect a large cement plant.

Of course the \$200,000 will not build a railroad to the sea, but with \$250,000 subscribed by the redwood lumber owners at Crescent City, with a thirty mile railroad from the coast already constructed and with actual construction under way from both ends, the task of financing the railroad is much simplified. It is made possible—more than that, probable.

The bond issue is commended by the bankers of Grants Pass. Its issue has been passed favorably upon by the attorneys of that city. It is the fairest and best way of raising money to start the railroad, for the property owners, who are most benefitted, are the ones effected, and this class, as a rule, draw back, let others take the risk, while they reap the profit. And there is little risk in this case for whoever finally does build the railroad, will have to assume the city's indebtedness.

The only way the people of the Rogue River valley can secure a railroad to the coast, is by creating a condition that will either force the Hill or Harriman systems to act or induce independent capital. The Southern Pacific does not want a railroad to the coast from here, because it would cut into the earning capacity of their present line. Not only this, but it is against the policy of the company to build branch lines or feeders unless forced by competition or fear of competition. The Hill line has no necessity for an outlet to the sea until they complete their line from Bend to Eagle Point.

Grants Pass is to be commended for its effort—it is helping itself.

What is Medford going to do about the railroad? Grants Pass efforts will make it easier for this city. A line from Medford would strike the Grants Pass line about ten miles from that city. It would also tap the Blue Ledge. It would give this section the needed stimulus toward development.

The Lord helps them that help themselves—and destiny is what we make it. Medford must help itself.

Welfare Movements Which Tinker With Result and Let Cause Alone

Mr. C. H. Ingersoll, of dollar watch fame, is preaching sound political economy to the reformers of New Jersey. It seems that some of these reformers are badly in need of a teacher, judging by remarks they have made to the effect that they are more interested in treating symptoms of social disease than attacking the cause. Mr. Ingersoll presented some truths which they have overlooked, in a letter to the Newark News. He said as follows:

"The practical question is what chance is there for child welfare while children and parents as well as being robbed by an iniquitous system of taxation, one of the first items of which is tariff taxes. Have the Colby and Roosevelt discovered a way of dissociating child welfare from the material conditions which surround children? Can there be child welfare when children are obliged by hard economic conditions surrounding their parents to go into factories and department stores when they should be at school?"

The New Short Cut to Panama

The long discussion as to whether the Panama Canal will pay expenses or any interest on this vast investment has at last been definitely answered by President Taft's announcement of the canal tolls. It is figured conservatively that the income from ship's tolls will be \$10,000,000 a year, perhaps more, from the very start, allowing a safe margin of profit after meeting all current expenses. The fixing of the rates meanwhile serves to remind the general public that the great canal is now an accomplished fact. After so many years of work the great ditch has been dug as deep as it need to go, and the enormous system of locks for raising and lowering the world's largest steamers are practically complete. It only remains to add the finishing touches, a work of a few months more, and the canal will be thrown open to the commerce of the world.

The rapidly approaching completion of the canal has served to attract thousands of visitors from all parts of the world. The proportion of American visitors is of course by far the greatest. The canal makes a patriotic appeal to every citizen of the United States. In order to accommodate tourists from the middle west a convenient short cut has been arranged by sending special cruises from New Orleans as well as from New York. This does away with the long journey which many people from the west were obliged formerly to take to New York to connect with

World's First Aerial Shooting Contest

Having tasted the full joys of "the shoot" on Old Mother Earth, the twentieth century marksman has finally taken his modern firearm into the heavens, on the wings of "the torpedo boat of the cloud" there to battle in still more glorious conquests. Through all the ages of history the world had waited until November 5, 1912, to see an actual shooting contest in the air. On that day Charles Lee Calder, borne in a Wright biplane by George W. Beatty, soared above a cheering crowd at Aviation Field, Oakwood Heights, Staten Island, and shooting a Remington-UMC autoloading shotgun, brought down three of seven balloons that had been released after the big machine left the ground. Before "taking wind" Calder had shot five balloons from the ground without a miss as part of the contest, his opponent, with another make of shotgun, having only been

able to break two of his five. In the air Calder's rival, the first to go up, did not break any of the balloons though his aviator worked skillfully in jockeying for advantageous shots. Thrilling, indeed, was the spectacle from the viewpoint of "the man in the grandstand." The balloons were sent up a few minutes apart from far out in the field and drifted upward toward the watching throng. It was necessary for the aviators to work their machines into positions at right angles to the line of balloons that the shooting might be done across the field and not toward the spectators. This condition, together with the uncertainty of the air currents, required much maneuvering and the onlookers were treated to a rare exhibition of aeroplane gymnastics. There are undoubtedly elements of interest in aerial shooting stunts that are not found in even the most exciting contests on terra firma, and

it is probable that the future will see many more such contests as the gathering at Oakwood Heights was privileged to witness.

We Must Have Money

We must have \$50,000 just as quick as we can get it. We have to pay our rent. We have to pay grocery and meat bills, laundry and milk bills. We have to buy wood and lots of other things. Anyway we need money. We need it worse than anybody. That is why we sell cheaper. A glance at the following items will convince the most skeptical.

- Men's 75c Shirts 35c
Men's Shirts that sold for \$1.50, \$1.75 and \$2, at 50c
Men's Wool Sox 10c
Men's 10c Handkerchiefs 3c
Men's \$2.00 Hats \$1.00
Men's \$2.50 Trousers \$1.00
Men's Overalls 50c

Sale runs until we get all the money we want. Will the lady that is wearing the boot please bring it in in time for the sale. THE CHEAPEST STORE IN THE WEST

BARGAIN Removal Sale M. M. DEPARTMENT STORE Successors to Mecker's ALL WOOL SWEATERS Ladies' \$3.50 and \$4.50 all wool Sweaters, white, navy and gray. Saturday, only \$1.25. MEN'S WORK COATS Wool lined, velvet collar, gray covert, regular \$2 value, sale price \$1.19. CHILDREN'S COATS Grays, navys, browns, 6 to 14 years, now Half Price \$2.50 value \$1.25 \$5.00 value \$2.50 \$6.00 value \$3.00 \$7.50 value \$3.75. LADIES' BLACK COATS 1/2 PRICE Ladies' black broadcloth kersey coats —satin lined, all sizes. Regular \$25.00 value \$12.50 Regular \$30.00 value \$15.00 Regular \$20.00 value \$10.00. LADIES' SUITS Ladies' \$25 Suits, navy and brown, anything in the house \$14.95 12 1/2c Linen Toweling, unbleached, a yard 8c 10c Bleached Muslin, 1 yard wide, a yard 7c. ALL CHILDREN'S SHOES 10% OFF House lining, bolt price 4 1/2c. M. M. Department Store THE HOUSE THAT IS NEVER UNDERSOLD

ISIS THEATRE

Vaudeville and Photoplays Big Bill Alice Mae BLAISDELL & WEBSTER Comedy Singing and Talking Act, entitled. "A Busy Day in a Booking Office"

Feature Photoplays—4 Exhibiting the best of the licensed pictures, which gives you a guarantee of better subjects, better photography, the best actors, bar none, and a better show.

THE POACHER'S PARDON Excellent drama produced in England by Gene Gauntier and her all star company of Kalein players.

OLYMPIC GAMES AT PITTSBURG Topical THE REDEMPTION OF SLAVERS A Fine Dramatic Study

THE GREEN-EYED MONSTER Clever Comedy Good Music

Special Matinees Saturday and Sunday. Matinee prices, 5 and 10 cents.

UGO

ALWAYS A GOOD SHOW TONIGHT WHY JIM REFORMED Selling. A drama of the west that has a moral.

THE PHYSICIAN OF SILVER GULCH Lubin. A photoplay that adds to the reputation of this well-known company.

TERRIBLE TEDDY Essay. A roaring comedy with lots of laughs.

THE RED BARRIER Vitagraph. A good story with a fine cast.

Good Music and Singing Coming Saturday—The third series of "What Happened to Mary." Change of program every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.

STAR THEATRE

We lead, others follow. Big Feature Today KID McROY In the Great Jewel Hobbbery of International History See the Clever Fighter in Action

THROUGH THE FLAMES It's a Thambauer THE BUTLER'S BUTLER All Comedy Song

FORREST and WOOLWORTH The Ragtime Wizards Matinees Daily 2 to 5 p. m.

ADMISSION, 5c AND 10c

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