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FRIENDLINESS—"And the Lord came down to see the which the children of men had builded." Gen. 11:5

OUT OUR WAY



By WILLIAMS

THE OPEN COURT

CORRESPONDENTS MUST SUBMIT THEIR NAMES TO THE EDITOR IF THEY DESIRE LETTERS PRINTED.

BLAMES VEXATIOUS LAWS

The Sunday Oregonian contained a communication over the name of August Houli, criticizing the secretary of state's office for the red tape in issuing certificates of title to automobiles, and the question is asked: "Why should the car owners answer a lot of silly questions on the application blanks and waste the owner's and state's time?"

I have no brief for Secretary of State Koser, nor do I believe that any defense in his behalf is necessary, because he is recognized as one of the most efficient secretaries of state that this state has ever had. In justice to him, however it should be stated that the law prescribes what the application for registration of title to an automobile shall contain, and not Secretary of State Koser (see chapter 259, laws, 1925).

The secretary of state simply carries out the requirements of the law, and if there is any blame to be attached to requiring owners of automobiles to answer "silly questions" in order to obtain a certificate of title the blame should be placed on the enactors of the law, and not on the secretary of state, who has no discretion, but follows the requirements of the law.

People are too prone to blame those who execute a law that they do not like. Some people blame the sheriff who collects the taxes because the taxes are high, when

he has nothing whatever to do with the assessment of property or the levy of taxes. I think myself that there is too much red tape in securing a certificate of title to an automobile, but that is not the fault of the secretary of state. One consolation the law provides: "Said certificate shall be good for the life of the car, so long as the same is owned or held by the original holder of such certificate and need not be renewed annually or at any other time except as provided."

There is no question but that the law requiring the registration of title to automobiles is a good law and that it will prevent the theft of automobiles and assist in their recovery when stolen, as well as enable a purchaser of a second-hand automobile to know what kind of a title he is obtaining.

—J. W. Knowlton

Chamber Officers Elected
CORVALLIS, Ore., — F. H. Whitman, prominent merchant of this city, was elected president of the Corvallis chamber of commerce. A. A. Hull was elected vice-president; H. W. Hand, secretary; H. C. Woodcock, treasurer; and C. J. Gault, W. F. Kennedy and M. H. Meyers, trustees. State President Vining delivered an address.

Hosiery

Three World Famous Lines—

PHOENIX

LA FRANCE

KAYSER

All the popular costume shades in silk, chiffon, pure silk and lace. Full-fashioned and neck seam.

At Reduced Prices.

N. K. West & Co.

La Grande's Leading Store For 25 Years

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Playing with a revolver thought unloaded, 6-year-old Edith Mason shot her aunt in the neck.

A Berlin modiste predicts that skirts will entirely disappear. Maybe she bases her prediction on the fact that they are now going in that direction.

The interior department, in writing off over \$14,000,000 of deficit on reclamation projects, should remember that at least half of that amount can be blamed on poor politics while the other half is blamed on poor land.

Action by the City Planning Commission is now all that is required to get the street lighting improvement in the business section definitely before the people. That body is expected to take the necessary steps in the near future and the new system should be installed by early spring. It will mean much to the city in improved appearance.

The proposed appointment of Marshall Dana to the shipping board from the Northwest is receiving the support of both major parties in the state and would be a happy solution. If there is anyone in the two states who is more loyal to the interests of the Northwest, who is more keenly interested in its needs and its possibilities, who is more sincere and straight-forward in his purpose than Marshall Dana, we do not know him. The Northwest country is a hobby with Dana—he thinks it, talks it, dreams it, works it. The very nature of his activity for many years would make him familiar with its requirements from a shipping standpoint. Although a Democrat in politics, Marshall could be counted on to be loyally devoted to the entire section he would represent. Partiality for petty reasons is foreign to his ideal of service. His appointment would be increasingly popular as time goes on.

THE MOTOR LICENSE LAW.

To the motor car owner who hasn't yet applied for his 1926 license tag and to the owner who has decided to keep his car in storage until he can get a half rate on a license next summer, it has possibly occurred that a regulation that permits delinquent application or allows complete exemption from part of the tax is wrong. In many cases, the automobile is the only property possessed that is subject to taxation. It is personal property in which several hundred of a few thousand dollars have been invested. Yet the state gets no tax return from the owner in case that individual wishes to keep his car in disuse for a year.

If the motor vehicles of Oregon are to be taxed by requiring a license fee, every car owned by a resident of the state should be required to have a license every year for the complete year. If he doesn't use it, that is a matter of his own concern. The state should not be interested in a question of usage even though the revenue goes for highways, but merely in a question of ownership. A farmer's land is taxed without consideration as to the amount of use he puts it to, without regard to his income from that property. The amount of profitable use of an automobile should not be the basis of taxing it.

If licenses were required for the full year on all Oregon cars, we would be rid of the present foolish regulation that new licenses cannot be put on until the first of the new year. Possession of a new license would be absolute proof of previous ownership of the old year's license. A complete check could also be made on all vehicles owned in the state, delinquents could be listed with accuracy, and additional fees for owners delaying the purchase of licenses could be inaugurated. Many states already have requirements similar to these and every motor vehicle must be licensed by the owner until he can submit an affidavit that it has been junked. Oregon's recent requirement for a certificate of ownership is one step in the right direction. Other changes are needed because the present law is both unfair and inefficient.

OFFICE CAT

By Junius

Some people are so dumb that they think a home-breaker is the wrecking business.

Tip to young men—The owl got his reputation for wisdom not by keeping late hours but by keeping his mouth shut.

If everybody could do something useful where would the world get its literary critics?

BEWARE!
Some people say that talk is cheap. But it's not safe to heed them; I've known two simple words: "Be mine," To cost a man his freedom.

It used to be said "The Romans rule the world and the women rule the Romans." Now the women rule the world and the men are afraid to butt in.

The most pathetic thing we can think of is the man who choked to death on a life-saver.

Town boys are greener in the country than country boys in the town.

"I was just reading about a man who one day tried to hang himself and the next day he got married."
"Yeah! Some folks just ain't never satisfied."

The ultimate in facility is taking a college course in journalism and then joining the staff of a tabloid newspaper.

A tag, a bone, a lipstick and, "Ain't nature grand," her lover said.

NO DOUBT!
Friday, generally fair, probably followed by Saturday. Weather report, Billings, Mont., Blade.

Which do you think can tell



If you see a big lion coming after you whipping his tail and licking his mouth, there is only one thing left to do and that is to run home, crawl into your basement and open the furnace door and shovel Mr. Lion in. He'll have a warm time before he gets out of there. Say mister, a big at you. From what the Lion Coal has just arrived and is looking at you! From what the Lion salesman said it must be the king of the coal. But if the Lion salesman was "lion" to us he'll think he met a big lion the next time he comes through La Grande. However, the lumps are large and look mighty fine and burns with throws out lots of heat. \$12.50 per ton delivered.

Claude C. Pratt Lumber Co.
"The Poor Man's Friend"
Near Foundry. Phone M-215
No Sunday Business

Yesterday In Washington

(By Associated Press)

The house approved the Italian debt settlement.

Senator Cole House delivered another attack on diplomatic immunity.

Charges of monopoly were heard by the house committee consisting of the biggest big-golf players or fishermen?

"Remember," said the serious friend, "your country is calling you."
"I know that," replied Senator Pildeman, "but different parts of the country are calling me different things."

June is one of the twelve unlucky months to be married in.

oring radio legislation.

Debate continued in the senate on the world court.

Harvey R. Firestone gave a house committee his views on rubber.

Hearings on the Watson-Parker railroad labor bill continued before the senate committee.

The Haughen co-operative marketing bill was introduced by the house agricultural committee.

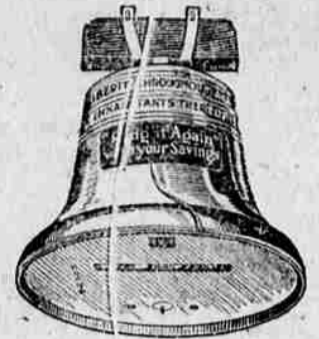
Pennsylvania house members conferred with labor department officials on the anthracite suspension.

The co-operative marketing conference agreed to refer the surplus question to a committee for study.

MUSICAL BANDIT EXECUTED.
PALERMO, Italy—Before the execution of Giacomo Cerri, the "musical bandit," he composed a violin selection in his cell.



Red Cross Drug Store



The Most Effective Worker!

Money is the most effective worker in the world because it NEVER RESTS. Day and night it is at its task earning interest, bringing in income for its owner.

But it must be invested before it can work. And that is what this bank does with your money, sharing the earnings with you by paying you 4% interest on every dollar you let us use. \$1.00 opens a Savings Account and obtains a Liberty Bell Bank.

La Grande National Bank
La Grande, Oregon

New - Novel - Useful

LUCKY DAY APRON

\$1 Completely Ready Made Stamped for Embroidery \$1

Get Yours Now! They Go Fast

See the made up models in our windows

On the last order. 12 dozen sold in 10 days.

Popular colors. Woven, checked, Brocade. Designs easy to work.

\$1 each

Norton's Kiddy Shop

\$1 each

Norton's Kiddy Shop

FUNERAL DIRECTORS
La Grande's Leading Firm
Established 1896
W. H. BOHNENKAMP CO.