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ABE MARTIN



Some couples just seem to have the knack of getting along together. For instance, take Mr. and Mrs. Leighton Tharp, who've been married nearly two years, and they're as unlike as two democrats. "I want to hear our new preacher Sunday—unless it's a nice day," said Mrs. Art Smiley this morning.

McNary Will Not Accept Position In The Cabinet

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 23 (AP)—United States Senator McNary will not accept a cabinet position or any other appointment under the Hoover administration. He prefers to remain in the senate as chairman of the committee on agriculture and forestry.

This information comes to Salem direct from Senator McNary in a telegram to Mrs. Emma Murphy Brown, who is the senator's secretary when he is at home and who during the legislative session is secretary to State Senator Reynolds of Marion county.

When newspaper articles were published recently that appointment of McNary to a cabinet position might be one of a series of political moves that would land Governor Patterson in the United States senate and State Senator Norblad in the governor's chair, Mrs. Brown telegraphed Senator McNary to ascertain the truth of the rumors. "My position unalterable in connection with post in next administration. I prefer to remain chairman of committee on agriculture and forestry," says Senator McNary's reply to Mrs. Brown.

GASOLINE WAR STILL RAGING: PORTLAND 16 1/2c

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 23 (AP)—With all Portland dealers holding rigidly to the 16 1/2 cent mark, the gasoline price war rages along the coast appeared to have skipped Portland in its tornado-like sweep from California to Washington. While Seattle trade was chaotic, peace and quiet reigned here.

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 23 (AP)—Week-end motorists faced the cheapest gasoline in many months here today as two price wars, one between wholesalers and another between retailers, continued with bull dog tactics, which had torn the retail price of gasoline down to 9 1/2 cents from 12 1/2 cents per gallon.

PORTLAND LIVESTOCK

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 23 (AP)—Saturday's receipts: Cattle 60; hogs, direct, 170. Totals for week, approximately: Cattle 1200; calves 230; hogs 442; cars 88. Cattle market compared with week ago: All classes fully steady with spots in cows and heifer sales, particularly lower grades, 25 cents and more higher. A few loads of good steers at \$10.00 to \$10.85. Off quality down to \$8.50. Good heifers selling freely at \$10.00 to \$10.50. Good cows \$9.00 to \$9.50. Off quality \$8.00 down. Low cutters down to \$5.50 and under. Bulls mostly \$8.00 to \$8.50. Odd head of beef type up to \$9.00 and better. But light vealers \$12.00 to 14.00. Choice kinds quotable up to \$14.50 absent. Calves \$12 down. Heavies and thinns down to \$8.00.

Hog market compared with week ago: All classes steady with demand strong at the close. Bulk light butchers \$10.75 to \$10.85. Drive-in selling readily at the top at the week-end. Over and under weights \$10.75 down. Extreme heavies mostly \$9.50 or better. Packing sows mostly \$8.50 to \$9. Bulk slaughter pigs \$9.75 to 10.25. Mostly \$10.00. Feeder pigs \$9.00 to 10.00, mostly \$9.50 up. Sheep and lambs quotable steady with a weaker tone. Choice wools \$18.00. Others down to \$13. Choice yearlings quoted up to \$12. Ewes up to \$7.50 and better.

Experts will gather in Paris soon to discuss the war debts. Probably some embarrassing questions will be asked about how Germany can build two huge liners to break Atlantic speed records, construct a super-durable to shatter flying marks, start a tremendous extension of Berlin's subway and a hydraulic project in the Rhine and still be in the throes of poverty.

An English channel swimmer broke her engagement with a soldier, fearing marriage would "interfere with her career." Maybe she thought she wouldn't get along so swimmingly.

The day will come when men will live forever, according to an Edinburgh scientist. That'll give everybody a chance to get the last installment paid up.

Testimony offered in the Indian investigations seems to indicate the government has been employing some Indian givers.

Those falling under the pruning knife were the following: H. B. 303, providing for the construction of an armory at Klamath Falls; H. B. 316, authorizing the state livestock sanitary board to appoint official bleeders and official laboratories to conduct tests on poultry; H. B. 352, providing for the construction of an armory at Cottage Grove; H. B. 355, providing relief sufferers in the Bully creek flood; H. B. 353, providing for reimbursement for Washington county farmers injured by the nematode control; H. B. 409, providing for the establishment of an agricultural experiment station in Deschutes county; H. B. 412, allowing a claim of O. D. Shorb for injuries; H. B. 425, reimbursing Erick Inquist for fishing equipment; H. B. 483, providing for location of graves of all ex-soldiers buried in the state; providing for an appropriation of \$7,500 per year for two years for topographic map of Oregon.

One appropriation bill which was allowed by the ways and means committee and given a favorable recommendation was Henderson's bill appropriation \$600 for the painting of a portrait of Ex-Governor Walter M. Pierce.

MARKET NEWS OF THE DAY

Table with columns: CHICAGO GRAIN, Wheat, Mar, May, July, High, Low, Close.

LIVERPOOL WHEAT LIVERPOOL, Feb. 23 (AP)—(Close: March 9 1/2d (per 100 pounds) \$1.22 1/2; May 9 1/2d; \$1.26 1/2; July 9 1/2d, \$1.40 1/2.

PORTLAND WHEAT PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 23 (AP)—Wheat, Big Bend bluestem, hard white, 1.50; soft white, 1.22; western white 1.23; hard winter, 1.19; northern spring, 1.19; western red, 1.20.

CHICAGO CASH CHICAGO, Feb. 23 (AP)—Wheat, No. 3 hard 1.26 1/2 @ 1/2; No. 5 hard 1.08; Corn, No. 5 mixed 85 1/2 @ 1/2; No. 2 yellow 90 1/2 @ 1/2.

PORTLAND PRODUCE PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 23 (AP)—Butter, cream, milk, poultry, onions, potatoes, wool, nuts, hay, escar, bark and hops steady, unchanged.

CHICAGO LIVESTOCK CHICAGO, Feb. 23 (AP)—(U. S. Dept. of Agric.)—Hogs, receipts 8,099; steady to 5c higher; top \$10.95 paid for 170-220 lbs.; largely a \$10.75 to 10.90 market. Shipments took 1500; butchers, medium to choice 250-200 lbs., 10.50 @ 10.85; 200-250 lbs., 10.50 @ 10.95.

LA GRANDE WHOLESALE MARKETS Small—15c lb. Springs—18 @ 25c lb. Heavy hens—16c lb. Light hens—14c lb. Stags—8c lb.

LA GRANDE RETAIL MARKETS Dairy. Butter, creamery—50c; 2 lbs., \$1.00. Eggs—15c doz. Cheese—25 @ 40c lb. Honey—Comb, 25c lb.

Vegetables Potatoes—10 @ 10c cwt. Artichoke—20c. Parsley—6c bunch. Cabbage—8c lb. Cauliflower—15c lb.

Fruits Jonathan apples—\$1.00 box. Bananas—15c lb. Lemons—45c doz. Oranges—50 @ 70c doz.

Sugar Cane sugar—16.54. Soft wheat—\$3.40 bbl. Hard federation—\$3.40 bbl.

Poultry Spring fries—30c lb. Hens—30 @ 32c lb.

Meats and Fish Beef boil—12 1/2 @ 15c. Chops and steaks—25-35c lb. Salmon—35c lb. Halibut—30c lb. Rabbit—25c lb. Cod—25c lb.

Gasoline Gasoline, regular, retail, 22c.

NEW SPRING HATS ARE HERE!! in the New Colors and Shapes — \$5.00 to \$10.00 N. K. West & Co., Inc. "La Grande's Leading Store for Over 30 Years"

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Old customs die hard, and you still hear public office referred to as "the gift of the people."

American women spend \$2,000,000,000 a year on cosmetics, which seems a great sum when you observe the men they catch.

If material prosperity means happiness, Americans should be singing like skylarks with joy. A world economic chart, published by Redmond & Co., sets forth in figures just how fortunate this country is. It places our national wealth at \$320,000,000,000, while our nearest competitor has \$120,000,000,000. Our wealth per capita is \$3,000, with Switzerland a comparatively close second with \$2,800 per capita, and the United Kingdom next with \$2,662. The national debt is between 19 and 20 billions, while the United Kingdom carries a burden of 35 billion, and France 17 billions. Equally illuminating are the educational figures. The United States has 260,000 primary schools, while the Union of Soviet Republics is next with 180,000 and Italy third with 130,000. Isn't it likely that standards of education and wealth are closely related?

THE SPOILS SYSTEM PASSES

Although patronage—the dispensing of government jobs to political henchmen—is one of the essential features of our present party systems, it is by no means as wide in its scope or pernicious in its influence as was the case of a few generations ago.

If a democrat, instead of Herbert Hoover, were to be inaugurated next March, only 18,000 of the government's 573,000 employees would be in danger of losing their jobs. But 45 years ago, a change in administration meant a house-cleaning all the way down the line. Practically every government position was subject to change at the whim of politics. These facts are pointed out in the current issue of 'The World's Work' by Frederick F. Van de Water.

Even as it is, 15,000 of the 18,000 jobs that can be changed for political considerations are postmasterships; and there is now growing a movement to make all of these strictly competitive, merit jobs. That would leave only 3000 federal jobs for patronage.

Congressmen used to fight bitterly against any reduction in the number of government jobs that could be handed out as "plums." Now they favor it, for the simple reason that it means less grief for them. In the old days a congressman might make one friend for every man whose appointment to office he secured, but at the same time he would make half a dozen enemies. When he can simply tell a job-seeker, "Sorry, but the civil service rules tie my hands," he escapes a lot of trouble.

The business of passing out jobs as rewards for political work began under Andrew Jackson, whose "to the victors belong the spoils" became a famous slogan. It continued, unabated, for decades. When Lincoln took office he was driven nearly distracted—not by the weighty problems of secession, war and slavery, but by the hosts of importunate job-seekers.

If we have gotten away from that old system we have accomplished something extremely worth while.

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