

Cottage Grove Sentinel

Established 1889. Editor Leonard S. Goddard. Published Every Thursday by Cottage Grove Publishing Company. Leonard S. Goddard, President. A. W. Shofstall, Secretary. Business Office at 25 North Sixth. SUBSCRIPTION RATES (Cash in advance)

One year \$1.50
Six Months .80
Three months .50
One month .25

Foreign rate—50c year additional. Member of National Editorial Association, Oregon Newspaper Press Ass'n, Oregon Newspaper Conference.

MEMBER OF THE OREGON STATE EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

ALMANAC



"Don't bite until you know whether it is bread or a stone."

JANUARY

- 1—Cuba comes under sovereignty of United States, 1898.
- 2—Trial of Bruno Hauptmann for murder of Lindbergh child begun, 1935.
- 3—First postal savings banks established in United States, 1911.
- 4—Manufacture of silk introduced into Europe, 536.
- 5—Capt. John Smith of Jamestown colony captured by Indians, 1608.
- 6—Benjamin Franklin, American patriot, born at Boston, 1706.
- 7—United States holds first national election, 1789.



"A nod is as good as a wink to a blind horse."

JANUARY

- 8—Andrew Jackson defeats the British at New Orleans, 1815.
- 9—The federal ship, Star of the West, fired upon, 1861.
- 10—England established first penny post, 1840.
- 11—First national lottery drawn in England, 1569.
- 12—Amelia Earhart Putnam starts Honolulu-Oakland solo flight, 1935.
- 13—People of Saar territory vote to return to German rule, 1935.
- 14—First written constitution in history adopted at Hartford, Conn., 1639.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The following are some of the highlights of Governor Martin's message to the legislature:

Oregon has come through the depression years with flying colors. As you know, the deficit of \$1,304,290.31 which faced the state at the beginning of my administration has been converted into a surplus of approximately \$200,000. This is the first time since 1925 that the state deficit has been eliminated.

Bonded indebtedness of the state has been reduced to \$49,108,010, the lowest in 15 years. Out of this total approximately \$46,800,000 is represented by the outstanding obligations of the Oregon State Highway Commission and the World War Veterans' State Aid Commission. Both issues are self-liquidating, and will be retired on schedule unless adverse action is taken.

For the first time in history, the state of Oregon will remove the property tax from real and personal property, except for that portion of the levy outside of the constitutional 6% limitation, of which more than one-half is for the elementary school fund which is not properly a state tax in that it is collected and distributed solely within the counties. The tax levy for strictly state purposes for this year is 1.15 mills as compared with 2.86 mills in 1935. This represents a reduction of more than \$1,500,000.

The state has done its part in lifting the load from the real property taxpayers in accordance with my avowed program. This has been accomplished through a constructive program of economy which has measured actual needs and demands of the state governmental agencies and provided therefor, within reason, instead of an arbitrary and unsound cutting. This has been effected through the

system of budgetary control which was authorized at my request by the 38th Legislative Assembly. It demonstrates anew the wisdom of sound business correlation of governmental activities.

It is essential that the tax load be not increased at this time. Then, the people of this state may all the more enjoy the full benefit of the economic recovery and the new area of prosperity upon which we are entering as a result of the great developments taking place in Oregon. I refer particularly to the Bonneville Dam and the Willamette Valley projects. I am sure you will agree with me that it is sound public policy to make the cost of government as little as possible, commensurate with adequate service for the benefit of the entire population.

As I have said, Oregon rode the storm of the economic depression on an even keel. It would be the part of wisdom not to rock the boat now and thereby risk losing the preferential and favored position we hold and can enjoy.

I have submitted to you the state budget for the 1937-38 biennium as my recommendation for legislative enactment to insure efficient and economical operation of the state government for that period. It is a program designed to encompass the growing needs for state participation in various activities that properly come under its purview. It is predicated on the need for providing the necessary and essential services within the revenue available. It contains, as you will note, an item of \$430,991.98 for contingencies and unforeseen demands that may arise during this legislative session. It is, in fact, a balanced budget; with estimated expenditures balanced completely against estimated revenue.

Deviations from this budget which will in any way exceed the totals thereof will either jeopardize the financial standing of the state or require legislative enactment to create new revenue sources. To impair Oregon's financial standing is unthinkable; to impose further burdens upon our already overloaded taxpayers would be deplorable.

Much has been said recently about the conflict between human and property rights. Let me call your attention to the fact that human and property rights are not in conflict, but are complementary. Each contributes to the other. I implore you not to be led astray by the deceitful, false, and misleading shibboleths of demagogues who maliciously try to create economic, social and political chaos. The sole purpose of these birds who prey on the body politic is to create confusion wherein they may attain their own nefarious and selfish ends at the expense of the general public. I warn you against them, especially because they so often speak in a manner that simulates righteous indignation and sincerity.

We must recognize that property rights exist as the result of human endeavor and activity, that without the human element property has no meaning. We must, however, guard against the undue influence of the wilful power of concentrated money against human rights and human enjoyment. We must set and steer a sound and sensible course that will keep us from disaster on the rocks of sappy sentimentality, and the equally dangerous reefs of the greedy, vicious, vested interests opposed to the common good.

REGULATION OF STRIKES.

The 4L legislative committee of the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen, convinced that British laws concerning strikes are accomplishing salutary results in industrial disputes, is now at work seeking the enactment of a federal law which it is hoped will serve the same purpose in this country.

"The law we seek," says the 4L statement, "would in no manner hamper the rights of employees or employers. It would make mandatory a submission of the issue in question to a federal board of investigation; and, further, that no strike or lockout could lawfully occur for a period of 30 days after such submission."

"What we seek is nothing more or less than a waiting period, during which work will go on as usual, and during which the facts and issues may be discussed thoroughly and, most important, cool-headedly. We know that most strikes and lockouts come into being in the heat of passion. We are convinced that most, if not all, of the disastrous and expensive industrial warfare in the past could have been averted had there been a definite waiting period enforced by law."

"In other words, we believe that, given opportunity, and free from coercion of any kind, men and managements can and will use

common sense rather than passion. That is all we seek. It would not encroach on the freedom of any man. And granted it, there would be far less industrial trouble in this country."

The need of such a law has been brought home to every thinking person by the damage done to farmers, fruit growers and others by the maritime strike.

ROBERT M. BETTS.

Men are judged by the character of their lives and by their works. Robert M. Betts, who recently passed on at his home in Eugene, was of a most unassuming nature. He was highly esteemed in state mining circles, where he had an active part for many years. Among his immediate associates and employees he was loved for his "wonderful character." He avoided publicity as much as possible in view of the active life he led.

Mr. Betts and Mr. Frank Taylor, engineer at the Black Butte quicksilver mine, were boyhood friends. The latter recounts the following incident which shows the character of the deceased.

During the depression Betts, who was financially interested in the Black Butte mine, when the question of closing it came up, advised the eastern stockholders to continue operations even at a loss in order to keep 75 persons from going on relief. Due to this advice, during those years the employees of the mine, executives and laborers, were partly paid in groceries and other necessities of every day living and later the company paid back salaries and wages.

"By their works ye shall know them."

THE PROPERTY TAX CUT.

Our State Capitol News letter last week contained information that will please all property owners, even those who have to also pay an income tax.

Oregon property owners will be asked to contribute only \$1,032,333.86 toward the support of the state government during 1937. This is approximately half of the sum paid last year as taxes on property.

According to the news letter this is the second time in the history of Oregon that property owners have been relieved of any contribution toward the ordinary expenses of the state government.

This reduction is due chiefly to the increase in the amounts realized by income tax payments.

THE EUGENE NEWS.

The Eugene Morning News is now known as The Eugene News-Sheldon F. Sackett, Salem and Marshfield publisher, is the owner of the "new News," which has come out in a new dress. A new model 14 linotype machine has been installed and a new 16-page press is to be added. The new body type and the change in the headings is a great improvement over the blackface type formerly used.

It is gratifying to learn that John W. Anderson will continue as managing editor.

The new office manager is Miss Helen Leslie Gage, whose father, Alvin C. Gage, is the editor and publisher of the Portland "Spectator," and who at one time owned a newspaper in Cottage Grove.

QUEENS AND A NEAR QUEEN.

The average American has already forgotten the Wally affair. One near queen isn't half as interesting as four in the hand.—Covallis Gazette-Times.

A near queen may not be as interesting as four queens in the hand, but experience has taught most of us that the four may be quite expensive if one keeps his neck bowed after several raises.

STATE CAPITOL NEWS LETTER

The Governor's Short Message.

Salem, Ore., Jan. 13.—Governor Martin's message opening the thirty-ninth regular session of the state legislature was unique in two respects. It was probably the shortest message ever delivered at the opening of a legislative session in this state. It contained no recommendations for new legislation. On the contrary it called attention to the fate of measures voted down by the people at the recent election and cited these as mandates from the people against any tampering with the tax structure of the state or any fundamental changes in the state organization.

The message, less than 1000 words in length, called attention to the improved condition of the state's finances, pointed with pride to the disappearance of the general fund deficit. Directing attention to the balanced budget prepared by his budget director, Wallace S. Wharton, the governor urged the legislators "not to rock the boat" by exceeding the recommendations

of the budget and jeopardizing the state's financial credit or by passing new revenue measures and thus increasing the burden of the tax payers.

The governor pleaded with the lawmakers "not to be led astray by the deceitful, false and misleading shibboleths of demagogues who maliciously try to create economic, social and political chaos" and urged that they "not be misled by plausible but designed arguments into enacting laws that will further the work of these destructive demagogues."

Library Services in Demand.

Demand upon the services of the state library have doubled in the past ten years. The biennial report prepared by Miss Harriett Long, state librarian, shows that 460,977 volumes were lent during the past two years compared to 237,110 volumes in the biennium of 1925-26. The library now boasts a total of 365,354 volumes, but even these, Miss Long declares, are not nearly sufficient to meet the demand. Patrons of the library have spent approximately \$12,000 during the past two years on postage in the prepayment of packages mailed out from and returned. Demand for books on business, trade, skills or crafts increased nearly 50 percent over the previous biennium while books on current problems, economic and social, increased by 40 percent.

Supreme Court Denies Jurisdiction.

The state supreme court refused to risk burning its fingers by meddling in the controversy surrounding Delmore Lessard's right to a seat in the senate. Lessard's eligibility as a legislator had been questioned because he had accepted appointment as an attorney for the bonus commission. Holding that neither the court nor the secretary of state had any right to pass on Lessard's eligibility the seven justices passed the question over to the legislature as the sole judges of the qualifications and eligibility of its own members. The act of 1933 directing the secretary of state to convene county commissioners to fill legislative vacancies was intended to apply only in cases of vacancies caused by death, resignation or removal from the district, the court held.

Biennial Legislative Ball.

Legislators and high state officials, together with their wives or lady friends, will be guests of honor at the biennial legislative ball to be held in the armory next Monday night. The affair which is sponsored by the Salem chamber of commerce is in charge of a committee headed by Brigadier General Thomas A. Riley.

The Oregon Public Debt.

If you are an average Oregon citizen your share of the public debt, not including that of the federal government, amounts to nearly \$200.

Figures compiled by State Treasurer Holman and released in his biennial report show the aggregate debt burden—bond and warrant—of the state and its numerous political subdivisions, to be \$194,136,445.22. But even that figure is \$36,000,000 under the figures for 1936 when the aggregate debt seems to have reached its peak at \$230,200,948.12.

Cities are responsible for the biggest contribution to the aggregate debt load—probably because there are more of them. Anyway the total debt—bond and warrant of the cities and towns of Oregon amounts to \$76,243,498.84. The state debt, totalling \$50,586,819 ranks second; county debts \$24,609,806.53; school districts, \$19,612,750.62; irrigation districts, \$12,363,675.44; port districts, \$7,569,214.58; drainage districts, \$1,978,369.61; water districts, \$1,067,320.60; highway improvement districts, \$105,000.

Bond issues account for \$179,125,937 of the public debt in this state, but outstanding warrants as of July 1 totalled \$15,069,508.

The compilation shows that the state has reduced its debt load by \$14,000,000 since 1928 when it reached its peak while the cities have whittled \$12,000,000 off their debt load in the past four years. School districts owe \$5,000,000 less than they did in 1932 and the load of irrigation districts has been reduced by more than five million since 1930, largely through refinancing with federal aid during the past year.

While the gross debt of the state and its subdivisions totals \$194,136,445.22 sinking funds and other assets amounting to \$42,885,974.61 reduce the debt to a net of \$151,250,471.61. Assets of state departments alone amount to more than \$27,000,000, most of this being represented by first mortgages and real property held by the World War Veterans' State Aid commission. Cities and towns report sinking funds of nearly \$12,000,000 while the sinking funds of school districts total nearly \$2,000,000.

The Hangman Passes.

William E. Lamb, Oregon's official hangman, who died this week was one of the most interesting characters this state has ever known. Mild mannered and gentle in demeanor as his name might indicate he admitted to having officiated at the execution of more than 770 persons—only one of these a woman—in the nearly 60 years of his experience in this

NUTS AND DOLTS



Nocturne—B Sharp or B Flat

The curtain never drops on that great American tragedy known as "Death on the Highways." Night falls and the stage is darkened, but death stalks on. Indeed, the drama quickens, for under cover of darkness the grim villain of the piece exacts his heaviest toll.

Danger looms too suddenly out of the shadows. There often isn't time to avert it. Careless pedestrians fall under speeding wheels into fixed objects and into each other.

Statistics prepared by the Insurance Company show that deaths after dark last year numbered 21,480, while deaths during the normal hours of daylight, when traffic was much heavier, numbered but 14,620.

The moral is clear: When the sun goes down, slow down.

World, National and State News

1144 Army Enlistments.

Major H. D. Bagnall, army recruiting officer, Portland, announces that a total of 113 enlistments were made in the district during the month of December, which makes a total of 1144 enlistments for the year 1936. This is the greatest number made in the district in any one year since 1920. This record was made possible by the fact that congress recently increased the strength of the army by 46,500 men.

Approximately \$40,000 was expended in Oregon during the past year. Substations purchased their supplies locally.

Red Cross Closes Bandon Quarters.

The American National Red Cross closed, last month, the disaster relief field quarters in Bandon, after completing emergency relief and family rehabilitation following the forest fire which destroyed that city the night of September 26. Awards calling for an expenditure of \$162,600 were made. Red Cross chapters in Oregon and in neighboring states, contributed \$43,760 toward the relief fund, the remainder having been contributed by the national Red Cross.

West Coast Lumbermen to Meet.

Notices of the annual meeting of the West Coast Lumbermen's association to be held in Tacoma, Friday, January 29, at the Winthrop hotel, are being sent to the membership in the Douglas fir region of Washington and Oregon. While the program contains a wide range of subjects of interest to the lumber fraternity, the association stated that emphasis at this annual meeting would be placed on National and international opportunities for promoting the use of West Coast lumber. An outstanding market for lumber in the United States is the expected revival of small house construction.

Tourist Registrations.

Secretary of State Earl Snell announced today that the increase in tourist registrations in 1936 exceeded the previous year by 40 percent. This is an even greater pick-up in registrations than anticipated earlier in the year.

More than 140,000 motor vehicles from other states entered Oregon during 1936, which was a substantial gain over the registration of 100,000 cars in the preceding year. Final 1936 tabulations are still being received from registrars throughout the state, but an increase of at least 40,000 nonresident cars is indicated in present reports. The month of December alone brought an increase of approximately 1800 registrations, with the total reaching 5200.

O. S. C. Judging Team Second.

Second place among teams from all western states was won by Oregon State College student livestock judging team at the annual livestock judging in Ogden, Utah, held the first week in January.

Oregon Farm Electric Service.

The State Planning board reports there are 5200 miles of rural electric lines in Oregon serving 19,284 farmers. Approximately 81 percent of the people of Oregon now use electricity or live within the limits of free service connections.