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THE FIRESIDE CHAT.

Here is the pertinent comment of the Eugene Register-Guard on President Roosevelt's last "fireside chat."

It is the address of a man supremely satisfied with himself, even boastful. Adroit in making it appear that his enemies are to blame for the woeful failure of his administration to effect any permanent betterment of those unfortunate millions for whom he pours out sympathy. It is an unusual egotist who could survey the results of "planning it that way" and liken himself to Abraham Lincoln. Between the self-less Lincoln and the self-full Roosevelt there is a chasm of character.

Mr. Roosevelt's announcement that he intends to throw his weight to influence elections is not surprising. It is to be hoped that with this utterance the White House will abandon the shameful and unworthy devices used in the Oregon and Iowa primaries and try to deal openly and frankly. Nobody can object to Mr. Roosevelt making his own definition of liberalism and trying to get all who like his doctrines to stand together.

The thing that is lacking in Mr. Roosevelt's talk, as we see it, is perception, a realization of the really serious plight the nation is facing. No thinking person who has witnessed the transitory benefits of the first spurge of government spending could view the new one without wondering what kind of headaches and heartaches will follow this orgy. The chaos which has come upon business and labor will not be reduced to order by spineless acceptance of disorder.

Mr. Roosevelt's failure to touch upon the expected special session may be the best feature of his talk. The railroads and the millions dependent on them may survive by inattention. The common sense of business and labor may do more than much legislation. If "reform" is adjourned for politics, it may bring blessings.

POSTMASTER AND CIVIL SERVICE.

It is reported that cries of "spoils" and "force" rang through the National House of Representatives when it was voted by 180 to 61 to place first, second and third class postmasters under the Civil Service. President Roosevelt in his last "Fireside Chat" proudly stated that all of the "postmasters for the first time in the history of the country are under the civil service." Of course practically all of them are Democrats.

This political gesture of Congress and the president toward the merit system in Government did not impress Washingtonians as sincere, according to reports, nor does it impress other fair minded persons as sincere. Postmasters out of politics! A great majority of them were unceremoniously dumped from the Democratic political band wagon into the civil service regardless of their fitness and qualifications.

Wonder what the men in subordinate positions in the postoffices throughout the land, who got into the civil service by their individual efforts—not through politics, nor because they belonged to a certain political party, are thinking of this gesture towards the merit system?

Of course there are many among those blanketed into the Civil Service who have made and will continue to make good postmasters, but the way they were put in convinces one that the Civil Service is now at its lowest ebb. Postmasters out of politics! It would be interesting to look over their shoulders at next election day and see how the majority of them vote.

STATE CAPITOL NEWS LETTER

Capitol Accepted; Cornerstone of Library Building Laid.

Salem.—One building of the state capitol group was completed and another formally started this week.

The \$2,500,000 modernistic capitol was accepted for the state from the contractors by the capitol reconstruction commission after a thorough inspection. The

building will be open for public inspection on the afternoon of July 2 and all day July 3. State departments are expected to move into the new structure shortly after July 1. Formal dedication has been postponed until the opening day of the 1939 legislature.

Shortly before the commission started on its inspection tour, Governor Martin laid the cornerstone for the new \$1,000,000 state library now under construction. The structure, across the street from the new capitol, will be completed January 1.

At the cornerstone ceremony the governor told the crowd of about 100 to "move in closer. I want you to hear this speech. I won't be making them much longer." He then praised the state's progressiveness in library planning and building during the past 50 years.

Hardly had his words faded away than the official inspection of the new capitol started. Francis Keally, new York architect, who designed the building, ushered the reconstruction commission from the dome to the basement.

The contract for completion of the structure is not complete despite the acceptance. There are still two stone statue groups to be installed in front of the building flanking the broad steps, and a gigantic statue of an early pioneer to surmount the tower on top of the building. Mural work, painting and other details will be finished later.

Motorists Pay \$5,029,130.77 in Five Months.

Gasoline sales in Oregon during May, totaling 20,582,615 gallons, were the second highest for the month in the state's history, according to Secretary Snell. The figure was one per cent below the record set last year. During the first four months of the year motorists paid more than \$4,000,000 in taxes, with \$1,029,130.77 being collected in May.

Budget Estimates Should Be in By September 1.

State Budget Director Wharton this week mailed instructions and forms for the 1939-40 biennial budget to all state department and institution heads. He requested that all budget estimates be in his office by September 1.

Oregon Supreme Court Makes a Record.

Only seven of the 86 cases appealed from the Oregon state supreme court to the United States supreme court in a period of 86 years have been reversed, Arthur S. Benson, clerk of the Oregon court announced this week. The other 79 cases were either affirmed or dismissed.

Fehl Insanity Proceedings Set for Hearing.

The state supreme court announced that the hearing on the insanity proceedings filed against Earl H. Fehl, former Jackson county judge, has been set for July 7. Fehl, who served four years in the state penitentiary for ballot thefts, is now a patient at the Oregon state hospital here.

Condemnation Proceedings Expected Soon.

With 31 jurors impaneled for the July session of circuit court here, action is expected soon in the state's condemnation proceedings against three property owners who have refused to relinquish their property north of the new capitol building for the appraised value set by the state capitol reconstruction commission.

Governor Asks for Safety Cooperation.

Governor Martin this week asked the people of Oregon to cooperate with the National Safety Council Silver Jubilee program in keeping Fourth of July accidents at a minimum. "I particularly urge all citizens not to mar the holiday by death or injury due to careless driving, unwise use of fireworks, and careless hiking or swimming," the governor said.

Employment on Upswing.

Employment in Oregon during the past few months has been on the upswing, it was reported this week by two state officials.

Guy V. Lintner said the number employed during June would show an increase over previous months of 1938. He credited the upswing in jobs to resumed sawmill operations in Marshfield and Klamath Falls, the pea harvest in Pendleton, and seasonal work in other parts of the state.

J. C. Joy, reported that the number of men working in May in Oregon industries under the workmen's compensation law had increased since February. The total April payroll was larger than the payroll during the same period last year. However, the number employed is below the number of last October when the high mark since 1929 was reached.

State Portland Office for \$690,000.

Owners of the old Elks Temple in Portland this week offered the building to the state as a state office building for \$690,000. The owners said they would donate a 50 by 100 foot lot for parking space and remodel the building to suit the needs of the state. No

action was taken by the board of control as Earl Snell, a member, was absent.

Twenty Years Progress in Five Years.

State Forester Ferguson believes Oregon forestry and protection has progressed 20 years since inauguration of CCC camps five years ago. He said the enrollees spent 135,000 man days in fighting fires last year. There are now 2400 CCC youths in Oregon.

Drunken Drivers Lose Licenses.

Drunken driving was responsible for the revocation of 64 operators' permits during May. There were 94 licenses revoked during the month.

History and Growth Of Cottage Grove And Vicinity

(Continued from last week.)

Stewart: I found this in one of the early Sentinels. "Ike Bingham of Roseburg forgets that Cottage Grove sent him to the legislature and he says that Nesmith county is purely a Cottage Grove scheme, but Mr. Bingham forgets that over 12,000 signatures from all over Oregon were contained in this petition—all favoring the creation of Nesmith county."

Bill: The Bohemia miners wanted Nesmith county because most of the mines were partly in Lane and partly in Douglas counties.

Jean: The Merchant Association contributed to a fund to further this new county.

Eleanor: I found this interesting remark in one of the Sentinels "Whether merchant, butcher, baker, blacksmith or liveryman, has signed to contribute to the Nesmith county fund."

Bill: On Saturday, October 15, they had the "One Big Day," as it was called, in Cottage Grove. In advertising this, the Sentinel said: "On Saturday, October 15, let the residents of the proposed Nesmith county assemble at the proposed temporary county seat and spend the day pleasantly and profitably. There will be entertainment and good fellowship will be extended to all. That is the Cottage Grove way."

Eleanor: Those things are certainly interesting. I found out several things that I imagine you didn't hear about. Dr. S. M. Wendt, a physician and surgeon, established a hospital here in 1917. It occupied the second story of a building on the corner of Main and Seventh streets. The doctor took surgery cases in general and specialized in eye, ear, nose and throat cases. Several graduate nurses were employed.

Stewart: I guess they didn't get enough patients. 1917, let's see, that was when we entered the World War, wasn't it?

Eleanor: Yes, it was April of that year. Cottage Grove certainly did its part during the war. A Patriotic Week was held. There were sermons, a huge parade, and several meetings. Much enthusiasm was stirred up and after seeing the huge crowd which gathered in the army, one old soldier remarked, "A few weeks ago, I was worrying about the safety of this country, but after viewing the tremendous crowd gathered this evening and noting their enthusiasm, I know we are safe." That shows that Cottage Grove was very patriotic. Bill, do you know anything about the men who went to war?

Bill: I know a little about them. When war was declared there was only a small militia company, but as many young men enlisted immediately afterward. That the men of Cottage Grove were doing their part was shown on War census day. At this time men between 21 and 31 years of age who had not enlisted, registered. Only one-third of those registering had no exemptions. Before the war was over, Cottage Grove had 282 men in service.

Eleanor: A lot of money went out of Cottage Grove during the war—the people went "over the top" in almost every Red Cross drive and with the Liberty Loans. Six thousand dollars was raised in the first Red Cross drive. Residents bought \$18,500 worth of the First Liberty Bonds. The other Liberty Bonds raised \$40,700, \$92,000 and \$61,000. One of these amounts was 230 per cent over the city's quota.

Jean: The people all helped in other ways, too. A group of girls organized an Honor Guard and raised potatoes and did other things to help the country. That must have been fun! Families helped by having "meatless," "wheatless," and other "less" days. The children did their bit—they cultivated vacant lots.

Stewart: Even the hens did their part. Listen to what the Sentinel said: "Cottage Grove hens are doing their patriotic gold darndest. A mixed brown Leghorn and Black Minorca owned by Mrs. Lucy Holland came up to scratch with an egg that weighed

4 ounces and measured 8½ inches by 6½ inches.

Bill: Those were surely exciting times. Cottage Grove people were always behind the men at the trenches 100 per cent. Everyone was glad when the armistice was signed. Here's what The Sentinel of November 15, 1918 said: Headline—"Cottage Grove Celebrated Dawn of Peace"—"Is it Associated Press or is it another fake was the first question asked by nearly everyone Monday morning upon hearing the news that the Armistice had been signed. Upon learning it was Associated Press and no fake, pandemonium broke loose. Sawmill crews, pounding big saws, paraded the streets. Every cowbell in the city was requisitioned and those who couldn't find anything else made drums of old tin cans and pans. Motor cars tore up and down the streets trailing whole strings of tin cans. The Cottage Grove service flag, bearing the figures 282, was stretched across Main Avenue, patriotic singing and speaking followed, with dynamite and fireworks being fired from Mt. David. A parade stunt that attracted much attention was a representation of the Kaiser, with the devil behind, poking him with his 3-tined work. Old Bill was cremated in a monster bonfire while representing the effacing of militarism from the face of the earth, which took place on Mt. David, made an imposing spectacle."

Eleanor: They had some parades those days. Our parades today are tame compared to them. But to get back to the war—the Cottage Grove boys came back in February, 1919, and were given a royal welcome by the citizens. Many dances and receptions were held in their honor. Cottage Grove was proud of their war heroes. Did you know that Kelly Field was named in honor of Delbert Kelly, who lost his life on a battlefield in France?

Jean: Yes, I heard that the American Legion post here was named after Calvin Funk, another of Cottage Grove's war heroes. The American Legion post was established here in August, 1919.

Stewart: I'm glad we haven't entered any more wars. What else happened along about that time, Eleanor?

Eleanor: Well, nothing very important happened until 1923. That was the year Cottage Grove was all stirred up about oil around here.

Bill: Oil? Around here?

Eleanor: Yes, some Reverend David Olsen had the people believing that Cottage Grove was to be a second Signal Hill.

Jean: Oh, I heard about him—he had preached here formerly, hadn't he?

Eleanor: I believe so. Anyway, he spent several months prowling around the hills near here with a weird machine which was supposed to locate oil. He said at one time that he had found 100 spots within 3 miles of town where oil could be found. He stated that land selling at \$400 an acre would soon be worth thousands of dollars. Lots of people believed him, too. They invested large sums of money in his company. He leased 3,000 acres of land around here, but the only derrick Cottage Grove ever had was up on Mt. David. Drilling operations went on for several months, but they never struck oil. Nothing ever really came of it.

Stewart: That oil derrick stood for several years. I can remember when it was still up there. This is a big jump from oil, but I've been wondering when the old airport was started. Do any of you know?

Jean: It was in 1928 and '29. The field became a federal emergency landing field then and beacons were placed on various buttes near here. But there was a field fixed up here in 1919. June 14 of that year was a big day in the history of Cottage Grove because it was the first visit by airplanes. Four planes landed here and stayed over night. That seems a long time ago now.

Eleanor: Talking about airplanes reminds me of the first plane ever seen here. Of course I don't remember it—it was in 1918, but I read about it in The Sentinel. It was really an accident because the plane was supposed to land in Eugene. The pilot mistook Cottage Grove for Eugene and circled several times over the city hunting for a place to land. All the business houses were deserted and most of the residents were outside craning their necks for a glimpse of the strange contraption.

Bill: Seems as though we're wandering around a lot. Did anything else important happen in the 1920's, Eleanor?

Eleanor: Oh sure, several things happened. For one thing Cottage Grove was once called the "Hollywood of Oregon"—Buster Keaton and a company of movie stars filmed "The General" around here. That was in 1926, and they were here for 10 or 12 weeks. The picture was a Civil War story and part of Cottage Grove and some places up Row river were turned for a time into the town of Marietta, Georgia, in the period of the 1863's. That was quite a boom for Cottage Grove because much money was spent here and hun-

JUST ANOTHER SCRAP O' PAPER!



dreds of people got a chance to do a bit in a movie.

Jean: I'll bet everyone was thrilled—I wouldn't mind being in a movie. Cottage Grove became the mecca of sightseers from all over the state. Many people came in hopes of getting to do a bit in the movie. I guess the bobbed-haired, short-skirted flappers got a chance to learn how sweet and demure the maids of long ago were.

Eleanor: Several national guard units got to work in the battle scenes of the picture. The people around here welcomed the chance to see a real movie being made and flocked up to the location. Everyone and his dog were up to Culp Creek when the big burning trestle scene was filmed. They stood around patiently all day in the hot sun to see it. I can remember going out there—many families took lunches and made a whole day of it.

Bill: It wasn't so long after that that the army was built, was it?

Stewart: Well, it was about 5 years later. The \$60,000 army was completed in 1931. At that time it was one of the most modern and most beautiful in the state. At the dedication ceremonies, 2,000 people jammed the building to hear several military men speak, and to attend the public dance. The \$25,000 city hall was completed in 1927.

Jean: We've been talking about the things which happened several years ago. Let's review the things which happened in the past ten years.

Bill: Since 1940 that would be. Let's see—we already mentioned the new hospital and airport. Of course there are the dams. Last Sunday we went boating on the Hebron dam. I can remember when they were trying to get these dams. Now look how fertile the valley is, and how cheap our light bills are. In 1938 Cottage Grove's population was 2,500. Now it is 8,000. These dams have helped us in more than one way too. Our beautiful resorts along the dams have made Cottage Grove one of the most noted resort spots of the northwest.

Eleanor: There's also the new union high school which was completed in 1942. It's considered the best high school of its size in the state and is equipped with everything modern. The new gym offers many athletic facilities and the school now very adequately accommodates all the pupils. The teachers no longer have to teach with rooms overflowing with pupils. All the districts around here send in busses.

Stewart: The route of the high-

way was changed in 1940—since then the business section has grown up along the highway. Remember in 1938 we really had only one street for our main section—well, we now have two.

Jean: I guess that covers nearly everything.

Bill: Well, it covers a lot of interesting material.

Eleanor: I'm very proud of our city. It's always been up and coming.

Stewart: This record should measure up well with any other city's record when we read that new encyclopedia.

The End.

Latham

June 27—Lois Hagerty of Portland returned home recently after spending several weeks at the O. A. Nichols home.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Yearous and daughter Marie spent the week end at Hugo visiting Mrs. Yearous' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Buffington.

Elsie Raiser of London spent several days at the Mamie Trunell home visiting a sister Esther recently.

Mrs. Earl Gidley and son Delmer of Sister returned home Saturday after spending two weeks at the home of her father, W. T. Garoutte.

The Gus Berglund family visited Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. V. Black of Knox Hill.

Mary Johnson, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Holmberg of Twin Falls, Ida., are visiting at the home of Mrs. Johnson's sister, Mrs. Anna Masters, near Marshfield.

Mrs. Harold Hammerickson and two children of Klamath Falls are visiting at the Lee Williams home.

Divide

June 29.—A Pierce freight truck loaded with 17 tons of food-stuff, ran into the ditch near Shady Brook auto camp Thursday, June 23, at 3 a. m. The driver was uninjured. Lights on the truck going out was given as the cause of the accident.

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Mostamcheli have sold their 13-acre ranch to Joe Glass of Cottage Grove, who moved his family here Tuesday. Mr. Frier and family, who have been living on the place, have moved to Lorane.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Reed and a group of friends spent Sunday at Scottsburg.

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