

# THE STAYTON MAIL

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## Seeking Nomination For Governor

Autobiography of L.J. Simpson who has announced himself a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor.

L. J. Simpson was born Sept. 1, 1877, at Oakland, Cal., and is the son of the late Capt. A. M. Simpson, the pioneer lumberman. The fact that his father was a big operator on the coast gave him the advantage of learning the lumber business, but he did not learn it without real work and hard knocks. Mr. Simpson attended the public schools of Oakland, graduated from Mt. Tamalpais Military Academy and entered the University of California, but did not finish the course there.

In 1896, when 19 years of age, Mr. Simpson took a job in the office of the Simpson Lumber Co. at a salary of \$30 per month. Then he went to Gray's Harbor where his father owned a mill



L.J. Simpson.

and worked as a common laborer in the shipping department. In 1899, after being married he came to Coos Bay and worked in the ship yard for \$1.50 a day. Later John Kruse who was at the head of the Simpson interests on Coos Bay went to San Francisco and L. J. Simpson was put in charge of the local business. There was a saw mill cutting 50,000 feet of lumber a day and a ship yard. This plant was located at what is known as Old Town of North Bend.

At that time transportation between Marshfield and the ship yard was slow, as boats gave the only means of travel. Mr. Simpson conceived the idea of making another town, and he made it.

This was by no means an easy task as his father strongly opposed the plan but Mr. Simpson carried it out alone. Fighting his father's opposition he bought a tract of 550 acres of land with water front. On this tract there were three buildings, a completed residence, an incomplete house and a barn. The first piling for the city wharf was driven in December, 1901, and to-day North Bend has a population of 3500 people, has big lumber mills and other industries lining her water front. The city stands as a monument to the determined effort of this young man who conceived the idea of making a new city for Oregon and who carried it out to a successful conclusion.

Mr. Simpson nursed this city through its babyhood, guided it in its growing youth and finally brought it to a point where it could be turned over to itself and its people as one of the most prosperous cities in southern Oregon.

In order to give North Bend its start Mr. Simpson gave much of his own possessions for the public good. He built a dock 1080 feet long and gave it as a city

wharf. He gave sites for factories in order that they might be located in the new city. He built residences for newcomers and gave almost unlimited credit to those who were trying to make a start. Quite a number of the most successful business men on Coos Bay who can today retire from active life with sufficient means, made their start by being aided by Mr. Simpson when establishing themselves in this city.

The result was not a one-man town. Once the city was brought to a self-supporting basis it was a success and today boasts of a pay roll of \$150,000 a month.

Mr. Simpson was the first mayor of North Bend and held the office for 12 consecutive years. He had opposition at different times but no one could ever defeat him. He only resigned the office because he moved to his rural home, Shoreacres, which was outside the city limits and which made it impossible to continue as mayor of the city.

During the eighteen years Mr. Simpson resided on Coos Bay he was manager of the Simpson Lumber Company most of the time and in this capacity he transacted an extensive business and handled big matters. The lumber operating interests of the Simpson company were sold several years ago, but Mr. Simpson acts as president of the Simpson Estate Company with various holdings in Southwestern Oregon. Mr. Simpson has been a partner to the extent of helping financially in almost every successful business enterprise in North Bend and those with which he was connected have done well. He subscribed for minority stock in almost every legitimate enterprise in order to help build up the city.

These efforts on the part of Mr. Simpson's city building have been crowned with the satisfaction of seeing within a very few years North Bend reach its present prosperity. The making of North Bend is probably the source of more pride to Mr. Simpson than any of his other successful achievements.

In laying out the city of North Bend Mr. Simpson reserved 67 acres of land overlooking the bay as a public park and together with the other Simpson heirs presented this in fee simple to the city on the occasion of the jubilee held to celebrate the opening of the railroad to Coos Bay. And the efforts of Mr. Simpson probably had more to do with the bringing of the railroad to Coos Bay than the work of any other one man in the community affected.

Mr. Simpson was elected one of the commissioners of the Port of Coos Bay after that body was formed and was chosen for the place because of his familiarity with the shipping of the port. He was one of the Coos Bay men who went to the national capital to secure aid for the improvement of the Coos Bay bar.

These facts as to Mr. Simpson's success in his own part of the state are in a sense perhaps only of local interest but they show that he is a man who was able to cope with the early difficulties of Oregon, who succeeded in what he undertook to the extent that his ability is recognized in the state and that he is a man who had the practical training to be a governor of the state.

Thursday evening Mrs. E. D. Alexander entertained at an informal dinner in honor of her husband's birthday. The guests were Dr. and Mrs. G. F. Korinek and Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Daugherty.

## Letters from Our Soldier Boys

In a recent letter received by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Smith from their son Lester who is stationed at Fort McArthur, California, he expresses his gratitude to the Stayton Ladies for the sweater suit. He finds it very comfortable as the nights are quite cold. Lester is in the hospital corps which is just in his line of work and exactly the branch in which he wanted to serve, and he states that they have plenty to keep them busy, he being one of sixty medical men on duty at this post. Under their care they have about one hundred and twenty sick men at the present time. In reference to California Lester says: "California is sure a desert if you ever saw one. You can look for miles and see every tree top. It is hot in the day and you freeze to death at night. No California for me. But we have nice place on this point; cool up here. I was over to Los Angeles a couple of times and to Long Beach where all the millionsires live. It is sure a pretty town and something doing all the time."

A letter has been received by the committee of Stayton Ladies from Frank Teague of Fort Warden, Wash.

He expresses his delight at receiving the sweater suit which he put on at once, and is wearing. He says none of the other boys have so nice a suit as his. It is exactly what he needs and he is extremely grateful as well as proud to have been remembered as a Stayton boy.

Feb. 18, 1918

The Ladies of Stayton.

I received the knitted suit yesterday and wish to thank the Ladies of Stayton very kindly. I appreciate it very much and must that you are doing a worthy deed.

You see I am in the submarine service and the warm clothes will help very much on cold nights.

Again thanking you for the gift, I remain

yours respectfully  
Paul J. Shreve

Camp Lee Va., Feb. 10 '18

Dear friends,

The package from the good Ladies of Stayton was graciously received, kindly accept this card as a vote of thanks for the useful articles contained.

The winter here has been the coldest for years, and in this army life homemade articles are fine.

John A. Rieger  
Co. "B"-302d. Eng.

## Red Cross Auxiliary

A large attendance of the members of Stayton Auxiliary on Friday afternoon Feb. 22d is earnestly desired as business of importance will come up at the meeting. Mrs. J. P. Wilbur,

Chairman

Mrs. Lester Smith and baby are visiting at Henry Smith's.

Miss Mary Tate entertained her class mates at a Valentine party at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. Lee Tate last Thursday evening, a most enjoyable time was had. The class and their teacher Miss Nora Crabtree planned a surprise on Mrs. Tate who taught them how to knit. They presented her with a hand painted tea pot as a token of their appreciation of her help.

Geo. Warford is now employed in Portland.

## Stayton's Women Register

Last Saturday afternoon the women of Stayton responded loyally to the Government's call for volunteer service. About fifty women registered. This, of course, is only a beginning of our local registration work, which will be continued on Friday and Saturday of this week from 2 to 5 o'clock p. m. at the Red Cross rooms.

The registration work at Stayton includes all women above 16 years of age in Stayton and vicinity. In fact all women who wish to offer any service to our country and have not registered elsewhere may register here; or if registered in some other place and have since come to Stayton or vicinity may register again.

This registration is not a pledge for service. When you sign a registration card it does not mean that you bind yourself to any certain kind of government work for which you are best fitted, or wish to be trained in some line of industry which will make your services of value in time of need.

For example, if you are prepared or are preparing to do stenography (or any other branch of work) to which you want to give your full time you may register for that line of work and ask for pay. Should you be able to do some line of work—perhaps drive an auto in emergency cases—and are willing to give your services for expenses only you may do that. Or perhaps you have home work that prevents your taking up a special line of work, but can spend an hour or more per day at knitting or sewing for which you would ask no pay.

The real object of the registration is to have a record of women who can do certain kinds of work and who may be depended upon and can be easily found in case of need.

Don't fail to register Friday or Saturday at the Red Cross rooms, between 1 and 5 p. m.

## Student Body Play

The first and only Student Body play will be staged at the high school auditorium, Friday evening, March 15. The play, "Mr. Bob," will cause as much merriment as "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch." Mr. Brown a very dignified business man, becomes so confused about the various names he is called, scarcely knows whether he is himself or not. Patty, a maid craving dramatic power, causes much laughter by her dramatic rehearsals as Juliet. Jenkins, a dignified butler, whom Patty declares her Romeo, has no heart for dramatic art. Miss Becky, with her desire to provide a home for destitute cats is strongly opposed by Phillip and Katherine, who object to her ideas. Mr. Bob lends the air of mystery to the play.

The purpose of this play is to help lift the debt of the Gym which lays upon the Student Body. Much time in preparation is being used and the students expect the support of all those who like to see lively, well prepared plays also those who wish to help make the debt lighter.

W. H. Downing was taken seriously ill with appendicitis at his home near Shaw one day last week. He was taken to a Salem hospital and at last report was improving without an operation. There will be no preaching service at the Baptist church next Sunday Feb. 24.

Your Money  
WILL BUY MORE  
Merchandise  
MARKETERIA GROCERY COMPANY  
THE STORE THAT UNDERSSELLS BECAUSE IT SELLS FOR CASH  
General Merchandise

## School Notes

The twenty-one cords of wood which the boys cut on the Bennett place have been hauled to the school grounds. This increases the gym fund \$63. Next week they will start cutting on the Alva Smith place to fill out their contract of one hundred cords.

The students in the high school play are doing some hard work and a good entertainment is promised. This will be given March 15.

Will Ryan has been elected Baseball Manager and is trying to arrange the following schedule:

Hubbard—At Hubbard Feb. 29.  
At Stayton April 19.  
Woodburn—At Woodburn May 10.  
At Stayton April 5.  
Albany—At Albany April 12.  
At Stayton May 17.  
Lebanon—At Lebanon April 26.  
At Stayton May 31.  
Amity—At Amity May 24.  
At Stayton May 3.

The Basketball game next Friday night will be with Albany. The boys have made good at many of the games and they are going to try to show Albany a warm race.

At the close of the program of the combined Literary Societies last Friday afternoon the large silk service flag was placed upon the walls of the Assembly. Some time ago funds were raised by the Student Body for the purchase of this flag, and it has eleven stars upon it. It was

made under the direction of Miss Miller.

On the same afternoon the Sophomore class presented the Student Body with a large portrait of Abraham Lincoln.

In honor of Mother Beryl McLaughlin's eighteenth birthday a large family dinner was held at the Domestic Science rooms last Thursday noon. A very enjoyable spread had been prepared by the different members of the family. Those present were: Grandmother Poley, Aunt Ethel Lau, Aunt Margaret Miller, Father Roy Follis, and the following children: Selma Schuff, Rose Hottinger, Eva McClellan, Edward Bell, Myrtle Brown, Maysel Montgomery, Nona Fulton and Caryl Ruble.

Wallace Child has left school and gone to Portland to work in the shipyards. Richard Child will take his place at the drum soon.

Othelia Spaniol is playing the marches for the grade children this week.

The teachers were pleasantly entertained by Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Gauntt last Tuesday evening at the Ford home.

The Student Body voted to telegraph Mr. Gauntt his fare to Stayton to see the basketball game Friday night. He will be given a very hearty welcome by the high school students as well as by others.

The basketball game last Friday night at Mill City resulted in victory for Stayton. The score was 33 to 3.

## MR. BOB

A Comedy Drama to be given by the

## High School Student Body

Under the direction of Miss Jean McInturff

## Some Time in March

Watch this space for Announcement next week

BUY NOW

PRICES GOING

HIGHER

A Word to the Wise is Sufficient

NOBODY UNDERSSELLS US

W. F. KLECKER.

ESTABLISHED 14 YEARS