

THE OREGON STATESMAN

Issued Daily Except Monday by THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY 215 S. Commercial St., Salem, Oregon

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DAILY STATESMAN, served by carrier in Salem and suburbs, 15 cents a week, 50 cents a month.

DAILY STATESMAN, by mail, \$6 a year; \$3 for six months; 50 cents a month. For three months or more, paid in advance, at rate of \$5 year. (THE PACIFIC HOMESTEAD, the great western weekly farm paper, will be sent a year to any one paying a year in advance to the Daily Statesman.)

SUNDAY STATESMAN, \$1 a year; 50 cents for six months; 25 cents for three months.

WEEKLY STATESMAN, issued in two six-page sections, Tuesdays and Fridays, \$1 a year (if not paid in advance, \$1.25); 50 cents for six months; 25 cents for three months.

TELEPHONES: Business Office, 23. Circulation Department, 533. Job Department, 533.

Entered at the Postoffice in Salem, Oregon, as second class matter.



MORE LEGUMES AND MORE LIFE FOR THE SALEM DISTRICT

Legume comes down to us from a Greek word which meant to speak, or to gather. Legumes are the pod plants, like peas, beans, etc., that may be gathered. We have from the same root word the word legend, a thing spoken, gathered.

Legumes are very important for the Salem district, for a number of reasons, the most important being these:

They mysteriously extract that vital thing, nitrogen, from the air, and place it in the soil, to give life to plants. Nitrogen makes the leaves green. There is no plant life without nitrogen.

They put humus in the soil, making it friable, workable, fruitful. They make a cover or green manure crop for the small fruits and the tree fruits and nuts.

They make a feed as a soiling crop that is invaluable for live stock.

They make the richest hay crop known. They make excellent silo crops, when properly mixed with other crops.

The sweet clovers make a bee pasture that is beyond estimate in value to the orchardist—

For the orchardist must have bees to pollinize his fruit blossoms—

And bees must have bee pasture.

Chapters are written by the observing men of the United States Department of Agriculture and of the Agricultural College Experiment Stations, and others, on the nodules on the rootlets of the leguminous plants; the diminutive animal forms, the bacteria that mysteriously gather from its inexhaustible sources in the air the life-giving nitrogen and fix it in the soil for the benefit of plant life; without which there would be no plant life.

For a long, long time, in the memory of men yet young, the farmers of the Willamette valley thought they could not successfully raise clover; though the summers were too dry, etc.

It has been proved that this is a great clover country; That we can raise all kinds of clovers;

And, in favored localities, alfalfa;

And that we can raise the vetches and field peas, literally, "till the cows come home."

Two things ought to be especially dwelt upon and accentuated and hammered in and harped upon till the very welkin rings with the jazz and the zest of it, right now:

First, the orchardists must have cover crops: all the orchardists. See what Sam H. Brown, the greatest loganberry man in the world, says about vetches as a cover crop in his loganberry plantation near Gervais. He has used vetches, and he has found that this treatment of his soil makes it rich and friable. The vetches put the bloom on the berry bushes and the royal purple into the fruit. It is no experiment with him. Sam Brown knows.

Second, and once more, there must be more of the sweet clovers grown for the bees. For bee pasture. And there must be more bees.

The sweet clover is a good crop for all the other uses of clover, too; and bee keeping is profitable in itself, and interesting and instructive work.

So there are several profits and several pleasures, directly and indirectly, in sweet clover raising and bee keeping.

What our people need is rotation, co-operation and team work, all along down the line. The farmers must have it on their farms, and they must have it in connection with the factories in the city.

If complete co-operation, team work, intelligent and intensive cultivation of the soil and entire co-operation with the manufacturers and market men can be had here, there will be builded around Salem, and in Salem, the most prosperous and progressive community life in the United States and the wide world. The natural resources are here. The knowledge is already at hand.

LAST OF THE ROMANOFFS.

Grand Duchess Olga, through the devotion of a peasant maid, has escaped the general slaughter. Sister of the czar, she was sent with the other Romanoffs to a Russian prison.

"BALANCED RATIONS"

WHEN such a thing was first proposed in regard to feeding livestock, the theory was considered absurd. Still some were venturesome enough to "try anything once," as they said.

Now to know what and when to feed cattle, hogs, chickens, etc., has become a science which most farmers practice.

The United States National Bank has also helped along that line—as its Pig Club results prove.



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on, where she was supposed to have been condemned by a soviet local council and stabbed to death.

But it now comes out that a daughter of a peasant, who served in the royal household, exchanged clothing with the grand duchess and took her place in the prison, and the royal prisoner was permitted to depart on the supposition that she was the maid. The peasant girl (with a devotion dear to the heart of a Shakespeare or a Corneille) suffered the indignities that the Bolsheviks took a malignant delight in inflicting on royalty and went heroically to her death without revealing her secret.

The sister of the czar was found by Red Cross workers in a hovel in southern Russia, living the life of a peasant and devoting her whole time to relieving the suffering of those about her. Her identity was accidentally discovered, much to her regret. She declined to leave Russia and seek safety in a more civilized country, asserting that she owed her life to "her people." She is still in territory occupied by the Bolsheviks, where she is working to relieve the distress which the Bolshevik regime has caused. Knowing that her life hangs on the whim of the slayers of the rest of her family, she insists on staying and accepting the common lot.

Such devotion may serve to alter the verdict of other peoples concerning the personality of the Romanoffs. The empress refused a safe conduct to Germany at the time the Brest-Litovsk treaty was signed, preferring prison and death with her husband to freedom in exile. The czar himself refused to be a party to a plot for his escape, holding that it would be beneath his dignity to violate the laws of his country, even though those laws were enforced—more often violated—by a government composed of thieves, criminals and murderers.

"East is east and west is west."

Tradition was stronger in the Romanoffs than love of life. Seventeen members of the royal family have been slain by the Bolsheviks. Trotsky is reported by one of his former aides, whose disgust was greater than his lust for power, to have boasted that he had stifled the royal bread, that none of the blood of the Romanoffs would be left to head a monarchical revolt. And Trotsky has now in his power one who escaped the general massacre.

The Grand Duchess Olga apparently courts martyrdom. Mysticism is strong in the Russian character. She may be sustained by the belief that a Divine power will not permit her family to become extinct. But, whatever the motive, the influence of her example will not be lost on the world outside of Russia, perhaps.

FUTURE DATES.

- April 16, Friday—Illustrated lecture at the city library by Richard Craven of Boston, representative of the National Humane society.
- April 16, Friday—Marion county conference of Interchurch World Movement.
- April 17, Saturday—Debate between Willamette university and College of Puget Sound.
- April 18, Sunday—Baseball, Salem Senators vs. Moosejaw.
- April 19, Monday—Lads and Dads meeting at Y. M. C. A.
- April 19, Monday—Moving pictures and lecture on Alaska by Blacklock Lewis, Alaskan traveler.
- April 20, Tuesday—Registration for voters closes.
- April 21, Wednesday—Willamette Glee club concert at Grand Opera house.
- April 22, Thursday—Baby clinic at Commercial club.
- April 23, Friday—Howard Everts Wood, landscape architect of Portland, to address Salem Art league at public library.
- April 23, Friday—Debate between Willamette university and Pacific university.
- April 23, Wednesday—Boy Scout entertainment at armory under auspices of Salem Elks.
- April 26, Friday—Debate between Willamette university and McMinnville college.
- April 29 and May 1—"Awakening of Spring" pageant Opera House, hospital benefit.
- May 1, Saturday—May day and junior week end at Willamette university.
- May 3 to May 6—Second annual Oregon Jersey jubilee.
- May 5, Thursday—Banquet of Jersey cattle breeders at Marion hotel.
- May 11, Friday—Debate between Willamette university and Oregon Agricultural college.
- May 11 to 15—Older Boys conference in Salem.
- May 11, Tuesday—Intercollegiate debate, Willamette vs. O. A. C.
- May 14 and 15—Nineteenth annual convention of Oregon State Association of Master Plumbers, in Salem.
- May 18, Tuesday—Pacific Coast Automobile excursion passes through Salem.
- May 25, Saturday—William Howard Taft speaks at armory.
- June 11 to 17—Officers' schools for Oregon National Guard at Vancouver and Fort Stevens.
- June 19 and 20—National epyx-tour motorcycle events in Salem.
- July 6 to 20—Annual encampment of Oregon National Guard, infantry and engineers at Camp Lewis, artillery at Fort Stevens.
- June 22, 23 and 24—Imperial conclave of Mystic Shrine in Portland.
- June 23, Wednesday—Imperial conclave of Mystic Shrine to visit Salem.
- June 24, 25 and 26—Portland Rose festival.
- July 22, 23 and 24—State Elks convention at Salem.

not on the Russian people themselves. A revolt against Bolshevik atrocities is already sweeping Russia. There are deeds which even tyrants cannot commit with impunity. Will Trotsky dare again to strike?

SENIOR WRANGLERS.

Some day some able-bodied candidate will run for president on a platform which includes a demand for a constitutional amendment abolishing the United States senate and he will get about all the votes there are.

With Borah, Reed and some others advertising it, the senate has become to the popular mind the greatest collection of common scolds ever assembled since the witches of Odonto had their fiery festival.—Exchange.

OUR COSTLY CENSUS.

It should be possible to contrive a more economical method of taking the United States census during the next ten years. That is one of the things effete Europe, certainly Great Britain, France, Germany and even Russia, do better than the United States.

In Great Britain they get it all over in one day, with full responsibility on the citizen.

And it costs them vastly less per capita than our hectic system. The forms are delivered by mail a full week prior to the set date and must be filled in by the responsible household of every building and residence enumerating every human being sleeping on the premises on the given night. Few souls are overlooked and the forms are collected by a comparatively small staff of people, frequently the mail carriers in scattered districts. This plan also catches the transient, for, no matter where the traveler sleeps, he is counted in that household for that particular night. All the returns have to be in during the next two days and enumerators are able to record the resulting figures within a week.

Our own system is unsatisfactory, as well as expensive, and calls for altogether too much urgent appeal, and the delay is against all our vaunted American celerity.

COUNTING THE COST.

The Britons, too, are counting the cost of peace. The British entourage at the Paris conference consisted of 524 delegates, diplomats and clerks. They occupied five hotels and the total bill exceeded \$2,500,000. Yet it was argued in London that the American delegation, although filling but one hotel, had spent more money. The Americans never were pikers when traveling, especially in Paris. But the price of peace is almost as distressing as war—and have we got it when we get it?

SETTLING UP.

Congress will have to appropriate \$420,000,000 to cover the final deficit in the government operation of the railroads incidental to turning the lines back to the owners. Something over \$500,000,000 has already been paid to cover former shortage. These sums relate only to the deficit in operating expenses. They take no account of the obligation of the government to return the properties in as good physical condition as when taken. That may require years of time and billions of dollars to adjust. If the government had continued in the business in another generation we would have neither a government nor a railroad. Neither could have withstood the strain of the other.

THE CLEAN-UP MAN.

Surgeon General Gorgas, who made Panama safe for democracy and

MOTHER!

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