

# The Oregon Statesman

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## GEARED TO STAGE-COACH DAYS

One of the fighting questions before the Oregon Legislature at the present session is over a reapportionment of the counties into senatorial and representative districts. And it appears that Eastern Oregon and Portland are combined against Western Oregon.

Multnomah county now has 12 members in the House, and a joint member with Clackamas county. If a reapportionment measure were agreed upon, and the number of members were assigned in accordance with the "number of white population," as provided by the Constitution, Multnomah county would get 21 members.

And that number in a body of sixty members would be enough to wield the balance of power at all times, on any issue.

The modern tendency of all governments is to get away from control by the people of the great cities. Such a control is dangerous.

It is conceivable that, under the Oregon system of direct primaries that, with such an apportionment, a very small minority of radicals in the city of Portland might easily dominate the Oregon state government.

Might turn Oregon Bolshevik over night, by due process of law.

So, in case there shall come such a reapportionment at the present session, there is no doubt but a cry would be raised immediately for a constitutional amendment changing the manner of making reapportionments.

The Constitution has never been strictly followed in the past, any way, in making reapportionments.

For instance, no one has ever yet counted the black and brown and yellow, or even the red and blue noses.

And in other ways the Constitution has been disregarded in its strict construction each time.

More than this, there would likely be a call for a constitutional convention, for there are many good people in Oregon who believe it is high time one were called.

The fact is, we are geared up to stage-coach days. And our state government is carried on in an archaic manner, and in a needlessly expensive manner, in many ways.

There are too many commissions and boards and departments, each one getting in the way of all the others, to say nothing of milling around in its own way.

And all of them costing too much money for "overhead" and clerk hire and printing bills, and supernumeraries in a hundred different ways.

A commission form of government would conduct the business of the state at far less cost, and with far greater efficiency.

That is, it would be calculated to do so.

In these days of telegraphs and telephones and railroads and automobiles and flying machines, there is no sense in the state of Oregon being geared to the stage-coach days of our fathers.

If the Oregon Legislature at the present session wished to do something outstanding, that would bear the stamp of statesmanship and would be constructive and for the permanent good of all the people of Oregon, they would put some legislation on the statute books directing some one to so conduct the flax plant at the penitentiary that it would add spinning machines for making fishermen's seine twines, and other twines. And to add the hemp industry, and to spin the sack twine for the farmers of Oregon, and other twines used in this state. All of which could be done within the plant itself, without the appropriation of a dollar. All of which, too, would help to build up the greatest single industry in Oregon. All of which, too, would provide all the year around work for all the convicts who could be spared, and within the prison walls. And all of which would finally make the penitentiary entirely self supporting. And no other industry can do this.

Salem's city marshal may rest assured that he is not going to be recalled, so long as he is guilty of no graver offence

than the enforcement of the laws and ordinances. A petition for such a recall would get nowhere, and an election, if such a thing could be imagined, would be 99 per cent against the recall. The people of Salem are for law and order. And they are going to stand behind the officer who enforces the laws and keeps down and out the criminal classes of both high and low degree. This is spoken in the name of nearly all the voters of Salem, both men and women. And it is spoken to Marshal Moffitt and all the members of his force.

**AT LAST.**

The Utah legislature must find time hanging heavy on its hands. It is debating a measure which would forbid a woman even the possession of a pair of shoes having heels more than one inch and a half in height. The measure has been considered by a number of women's clubs and is not opposed by them. The bill goes so far as to forbid the manufacture of shoes beyond the specifications named. A woman may be fined and jailed for wearing a pair. It may be necessary for an officer with a yard stick to visit all social functions and see that the ladies are complying with the requirements of the law. We must have about so many freak measures anyhow and we may as well have one dealing with the shoes of our women. At any rate we have the word of the bone doctors and other specialists that very high heels spoil the feet of our loved ones, and no one wants that to happen.

**THE RUSSIAN SOVIET HAS ORDERED**

All women to marry. Who'll get Em Goldman?

It is announced that the Democratic party is looking for a new leader. Here is a chance for the unemployed.

Help the Salem slogan editor prove that this is a great celery district. Which it is. Do it today.

There were a number of agreeable surprises in the Welcome edition of The Statesman. The great and rapidly increasing volume of the business of the Salem postoffice, for instance.

Did you send your copy of yesterday's Statesman to an eastern friend? That is where it belongs, together with a lot of extra copies to other friends. Everybody's doing it.

**THE WELCOME EDITION OF THE STATESMAN** speaks in superlatives of the Salem district, in many ways, and gets away with it. Every copy ought to go to a prospective newcomer.

Luther Burbank is experimenting on a seedless watermelon. He hopes to have it perfected by the coming season. It would assist much in the improvement of the table manners at some of the restaurants and cafeterias.

An estimate by the comptroller of the treasury shows that every citizen carries an average of \$15 in cash with him. In order to make the average so low he no doubt was compelled to leave out the editors.

When first-class letter postage was fixed by law at three cents a large sum of money was raised and not many people were complaining. The United States is perhaps the only important nation that has returned to its low pre-war postage rate.

The movement for extending the electric light and power lines to the farms in the Salem district goes on apace. It is a great advance. For all practical and progressive purposes, this is extending the city limits out into the rural districts.

There would be more home building in this town if so many of the newlyweds had not made up their minds to "live with the old folks." And they are making a mistake that they will regret but once in their lives, and that will be for all time.—Los Angeles Times.

There is this to be said in favor of the Pilgrim Fathers, whose tercentenary has just been celebrated in various parts of the country. They had no time to swear at the government, even if there had been a government. Conditions made them good citizens.—Exchange.

The reduction of wages is a big factor in the deflation of values in the east, where it is being extensively done, and the men are accepting the cut in the proper spirit. In getting down to bed-rock values everybody must bear his part and it might as well be received in a friendly spirit. A cut in the cost of production and an increase in the volume of products will accomplish wonders.—Los Angeles Times.

**FUTURE DATES.**

January 28, Friday—Triangular inter-scholastic debate, Salem, Stayton and Oregon City high schools competing.

January 27, Thursday—Guild dance.

January 28 to 30—Interstate convention of Y. M. C. A. in Salem.

February 3, Thursday—Duroc day, show and sale, state fair grounds.

February 12, Saturday—Lincoln's birthday.

February 14, Monday—Basketball, Willamette vs. University of Idaho, at Moscow.

February 15 and 16, Tuesday and Wednesday—Basketball, Willamette vs. Whitman, at Walls Walls.

February 17, Thursday—Basketball, Willamette vs. Walls Walls Y. M. C. A., at Walls Walls.

February 18 and 19, Friday and Saturday—Basketball, Willamette vs. Gonzaga, at Spokane.

February 22, Tuesday—Basketball, Willamette vs. Idaho, at Salem.

February 23, Wednesday—Washington's birthday.

February 24 and 25, Thursday and Friday—Basketball, Willamette vs. Whitman, at Salem.

March 4 and 5, Friday and Saturday—Basketball, Willamette vs. U. of O., at Eugene.

April 15, Friday—Baseball, Willamette vs. U. of O., at Eugene.

Mar 26, 27 and 28—Baseball, Willamette vs. Whitman, at Walls Walls.

October 6, Saturday (tentative)—Football, Willamette vs. O. A. C., at Corvallis.

November 11, Friday (tentative)—Football, Willamette vs. Whitman, at Walls Walls.

November 24, Thursday (tentative)—Basketball, Willamette vs. Multnomah, at Salem.

## THINGS THAT NEVER HAPPEN

By GENE BYRNES



none have ventured to speak loud. So for myself, I have to say, "If any of the upstart gormands have any shots to fire or bombs to explode, my address is 464 East Twenty-fourth street, Portland."

**VAIN IMAGININGS.**

Anybody could sell a Chicago sport a wooden natmeg. Somebody went through Clark street the other day and whispered that the Volstead act had been scrapped in favor of real beer. Inside of 24 hours there were 4000 applications for city saloon licenses. The council only charges \$50 for a license in these days, but here was \$200,000 poked under the door. Supposing licenses were \$1000 per each! If some administration ever attempted to run the liquor traffic to get all the money possible out of it it could pay off the national debt in six months.

**LIKE KELLY DID.**

A nation wide rounding up of all oriental ineligible, especially the Chinese and Japanese, is announced from Washington. The immigration officials are supposed to have been on that job right along. The announcement sounds like one of the pronouncements of Attorney General Palmer that he was going to reduce the cost of living by main strength and awkwardness. Did he?—Los Angeles Times.

**TEMPERAMENTAL.**

Some people are hard losers. They even get peevish when they lose a little thing like their temper.

**VACUUM CLEANER.**

If any man has a formula for building what he thinks is a stable government out of nothing it might be a good idea to give him Austria to practice with.

**EDITORIALS OF THE PEOPLE**

Educational Tax-Eating Gormands Editor Statesman:

Without seeking to commit you or your journal to the endorsement of any statements that I make, I beg permission to express in emphatic terms, to the general public, and to the members of the legislature, my conviction touching the menace to public welfare, through the machinations of the education tax-eating gormands.

I caused to be published in the Morning Oregonian of Nov. 29, 1920, an article entitled "Machine Made Citizens by Tax-eating Gormands," setting forth briefly the methods, purposes and accomplishments of the machine, quoting the forceful alignment of the educational tax-eating machine, as published editorially by the late Harvey Scott, in the Oregonian, under date of Feb. 11, 1905.

If it were not for the fact that it would involve an overdraft on my income account, were that possible, I would cause to be published in bold type, leaded, said article, together with the following, and more, were the way open.

I, however, realize the fact that by reason of the overpowering influence and ostracizing force of the educational tax-eating machine few are willing to speak aloud their views, touching this propaganda. The machine, with whip in hand, are ready to apply it wherever outcroppings of opposition appear. In Marion county, it is the "state capital dope." We will remove it to Eugene or Portland.

Every workable spot is noted and every device invoked. A few days since I received a well written letter loudly complimenting my article and making some good suggestions, withholding his name by signing, "A Taxpayer." Many have made hearty approval, but

is another class of schools not in alliance or connected with the public school machine.

Schools of vice and immorality, insidious and alarming. These are found on the streets, on the highways and byways, in dens of infamy, in some amusement centers and resorts, and even in some so-called homes. The activities of these schools are shown in the crime wave now sweeping over the country, as revealed by the fact that most of the criminals caught are young persons barely out of their teens, and that, too, not wholly confined to the male sex.

But what is the remedy?  
 —W. H. ODELL  
 Portland, Or., Jan. 25, 1921.

**Boy is Held Pending Further Investigation**

J. A. Crabb of route 5, reported to the police department that a boy called at his home Monday night and requested the privilege of staying all night. He was given a bed in a room ordinarily occupied by a Mr. Keever. When in the morning the boy had disappeared, it was learned that a pair of mittens and some tobacco had also disappeared from the room. Later Police Officer Porter found the lad and he was taken to the police station, when he admitted his name was Albert Miller and that his home was in Aumsville but he had been working at Turner. He is suffering

**A GOOD NAME WANTED**

E. L. King and Dorsey B. Smith, prime movers in the company just formed to operate permanently a line of high-class automobile busses between Salem and Portland, with extension lines from Salem south, and eventually into California, are undecided as to a proper name to use for their different lines.

They are asking the Salem people to help them find and decide upon a proper and appropriate name, and are asking anyone and everyone who will be good enough to do so, to submit one or more names for consideration, such as Arrow Line, Crescent Line, Crown and Hammer Line.

Persons suggesting a name which might be accented are offered a complimentary pass permitting such person to ride on any of their busses, at any time, for six months, on its through trip between Salem and Portland.

Letters suggesting names should be addressed to the King-Smith Company, 180 Broadway, Portland, Oregon, acknowledgement of which will be made at the time by the company, as this line has already been established, and auto busses are leaving the Marion hotel daily, at 8:30 A. M. and 2:30 P. M. for Portland. Names should be in by January 31st.

KING-SMITH CO.  
 180 Broadway Oregon

**THURSDAY One Day Only**

The Original  
**TENNESSEE JUBILEE SINGERS**

The Sweetest Voices from Dixieland  
 A Refined High Class Entertainment

**BLIGH THEATRE**

Moser Wants Employment Institution For the Blind

An appropriation of \$40,000 to be used in beginning construction of the Oregon employment institution for the blind in Portland, is carried in a bill introduced yesterday by Senator Moser. A millage construction for allowance for the construction of the institution was provided by the legislature of 1919, but no money under that act will be available until 1922, and it is held that immediate construction of the institution is so necessary, that an appropriation at this session is warranted.

A companion bill introduced by Senator Moser provides that the institution be under the jurisdiction of the state board of control as are other state institutions.

**MERCHANDISE OF VALUE**

We have finished our inventory taking and have gone through and adjusted prices on our entire stock. Here are a few of real values while they last—

**SHIRTS**

\$5 Madras Dress Shirts.....\$3  
 A Few Silk Shirts left at.....\$5  
 New Arrivals in Neckwear.....\$1

**UNDERWEAR**

A big lot of \$4 Underwear, all sizes to clear \$2.65  
 \$6.50 Union Suits.....\$4  
 Cashmerette Hose, 6 pairs.....\$1  
 25c Black Hose, special per pair.....10c

**Kafoury Bros**  
 THE STORE FOR THE PEOPLE  
 MEN STORE

**HEADS UP AND FEET DOWN**

MAINTAINING one's equilibrium is about the most practical thing which can be done at this time. An unsettled state of public mind makes unsettled conditions. Before you know it a new impetus will be given business.

It's all right to be careful, and one of those United States National bank accounts makes you that way naturally.

**United States National Bank**  
 SALEM OREGON

**SHOES**

Our new spring stock of shoes are now arriving. Many have already arrived and others are on the road and will be here soon.

The prices are much lower and as you have no doubt already learned, we always save you money on them.

You should call and make your selection now, while you can get just the fit you need.

**J. C. Penney Co.**  
 THE BUSY STORES