

# The Oregon Statesman

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## A PROBLEM FOR THE SMALL TOWNS

As the market road program in Marion county proceeds, a problem develops for the small towns—

As, for instance:

The market road running from Salem to Turner, then to Aumsville, and then on to Stayton, will no doubt all be finished this year—and perhaps it will be extended by next fall to a point beyond Stayton.

But the market road paving stops at the city limits of each one of the towns. For instance, through Turner there will be a hiatus of summer dust and winter mud for a half mile or more—

And at Aumsville there will be such a hiatus in the paving of a mile and a half; for it is a mile and a half through that town.

Stayton is saving up her road money, with an idea of attempting to get the street through the town paved, to join up with the county market road there.

The situation cannot be remedied at the present time. The county market roads were marked out by the vote on bonds to build them, and the county authorities have no power to extend the paved market roads into or through the towns.

The larger towns can assess the abutting property, or in some other way get the paving done. But the small towns would find this much more difficult if not altogether impossible. If they undertook to sell their bonds for the paving of their streets, or attempted to operate under the Bancroft plan, assessing the cost to abutting property, they would probably be unable to find buyers for their bonds.

It is too early to spend a great deal of time in worrying over this situation at the present time; it is a blessed thing to get the main county roads paved to the city limits of the towns of Marion county—

But after this program shall have been fully carried out, taking this year and the three years following to finish the great task, no doubt there will in some manner be found a way out for the small towns; for by that time the general public will by force of circumstances be enlisted in the problem, along with the property holders in the small towns.

What is the answer to the drawing out of the session of the Oregon Legislature? Is a forty day session not long enough for the increased and increasing business of this state?

It is scarcely conceivable that gambling is to be allowed to be resumed at the races of the Oregon State Fair, under any sort of a subterfuge. Gambling is gambling, under any kind of a name; and it robs weak people of their money and is not good for the public morale.

There promises to be a rush on the traffic outbound from Washington in the very near future.

We are getting back to the old times. The margin of increase of the salary of the janitor over the college professor is growing smaller with the passage of time.

After March 4 two Ohio men will run things in this country—Warren G. Harding as president, and Kenesaw Mountain Landis as high priest of baseball.

The North Marion County Growers' association has fixed the minimum price for loganberries at 7 cents, raspberries 12 cents, strawberries 9 cents, and gooseberries 7 cents, for the coming crop. That looks pretty good. But the Salem slogan editor has been telling you for many, many months to raise more raspberries; especially Munger black raspberries, which persist here, year after year, and do not persist in any other section.

The bee business in the Salem district is on a boom. But the industry should have a much bigger boom. See the Salem slogan pages of The Statesman on Thursday. And in the meantime, it is your duty to tell the slogan editor, if you know anything of value about bee keeping.

President-elect Harding is learning the presidential job from the inside and seeing it as no man possibly can until he has been elected to the office. He is compelled to search men's motives as he never has before. He

is contemplating the politicians from a different angle than he ever enjoyed. And in his time he has been something of a politician himself.

The money supply bills under the new arrangement in congress are now in the hands of a single committee, instead of eight or nine, and there is already trouble over it, engineered by those who are not getting what they want in the way of appropriations. Divided authority over appropriation bills was introduced many years ago to punish Samuel J. Randall, a protective tariff Democrat from Pennsylvania. The Democrats did not like his unorthodox tariff views. The punishment of Randall has probably cost the taxpayers of millions of dollars.

## RABBITICAL YEARS.

(Los Angeles Times.)  
 Some highway is always trying to get a corner on the crepe market.

Mathus studied economics for many years and finally delivered himself of the mirthful doctrine that population would increase throughout the world so much more rapidly than the food on which to sustain it that the only escape from the dilemma would be in wholesale suicide or in the kindly advent of many plagues and wars and famines, which he, in a sunny moment, called "correctives." In an effort to be really cheerful he predicted that nature would be generous in supplying those correctives. He differed from most what's-the-users, however, in that he finally killed himself, thereby making at least a partial recompense for all his utterances.

Socrates studied human nature as few men ever did and came to the conclusion that the only wise men are those who know that they and all other men are fools. He was so bored with existence in the most enlightened community of his age that he eventually drank hemlock rather than take advantage of the opportunity to flee from Athens or to stay and argue it out with the Athenians for his life.

Dr. Lawson has just informed us that the coast range is jazzing back and forth in a threatening manner, and adds that sooner or later all of the ranges will get the same sneaky feeling and will begin one-stepping it over everything. It does not take a very clever mathematician to say how long the people of this earth would last if they were forced to become the spectators at a "jitterney crawl" of all the mountain ranges, with individual peaks doing the castle walk and with the little hills, weary of merely "skipping like young lambs," going into the wild abandon of the bunny hug or the turkey trot.

Then, of course, we always have with us the scientist who tells us how rapidly the sun is cooling and how certain we are to freeze here within a few million years if we are not burned as a result of star collisions in the meanwhile. But the most depressing forecast of all comes from Milwaukee, once famous for better things. Prof. Charles Kirschhoff of that city announces with all the finality of an astrologer that "the conjunction of certain stars (names wisely withheld) with the moon" will result in flooding the earth with twins and triplets and quadruplets and half-dozen and so on ad the poorhouse.

Besides such a pronouncement all of the grief-stricken utterances of ancient and modern times seems light and trivial. Governor Stevens weeping for the forty fat commissions that look up and must be fed and at the same time shedding tears for the plight of the purse of the poor taxpayer is in the light-comedy class when compared with the Kirschhoff forecast. And yet Governor Stevens is not in the least comical, as he insists in his own behalf. Even Charlie Schwab, wiping his eyes over the carelessness of the Bethlehem Steel company with government checks for little sums like \$100,000 and \$249,000 each, loses some of his tragic effect when one things of what this press agent for the stork is saying in Milwaukee.

## FUTURE DATES.

February 22, Tuesday — Basketball, Willamette vs. Idaho, at Salem.  
 February 23, Tuesday — 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.  
 March 18 — Herbert Loan Coupe — Lecturer at Salem Armory.  
 April 15, Friday — Baseball, Willamette vs. U. of O., at Salem.  
 April 16, Saturday — Baseball, Willamette vs. U. of O., at Eugene.  
 May 25, 27 and 28 — Baseball, Willamette vs. Whitman, at Walls Walla.  
 October 1, Saturday (tentative) — Football, Willamette vs. O. A. C., at Corvallis.  
 November 21, Friday (tentative) — Football, Willamette vs. Whitman, at Walls Walla.  
 November 24, Thursday (tentative) — Thanksgiving day football, Willamette vs. Malheur, at Salem.

family (we will wonder, then, why we ever called it great in the palm days of only six to a dozen children to each couple) of the future in the light of these forecasts.

After he has ushered in assorted triplets and quadruplets the family physician will next walk out smilingly to the nervous father with the stereotyped announcement: "Congratulations, it's a boy—and seven girls!"

It we have a housing problem now, what will we have in these six rabbitical years that are ahead of us? Also, what are we going to do with people who have been offering all kinds of rewards for those who will do their part toward stopping race suicide? Probably the best punishment would be to make them become the nursemaids for those countless babies. It would be nothing but right to make a bonfire of the books by some meddlesome bachelor who has for years been urging other people to have hosts of children and let him tell three sets of half a dozen each fairy stories and put them all to bed.

## GOOD AND BAD BUSINESS.

Henry Ford says that good business for the firm or individual is apt to be bad business for the country. The way he figures it is that the good business spoils the spirit of humanity in the business man. He neglects courtesy and forgets the amenities of salesmanship. When business is dull a merchant or manufacturer will be at some pains to sell things. He will indicate some kindness to a possible customer and will show that he can still be polite. But when business is brisk and people are buying everything in sight the merchant is overbearing and arrogant. He demands advanced prices and gives in return damaged goods and inefficient service. Competition and dull business are good stimulants for commercial inflation. Some day we shall see Henry out on the road trying to sell his own road rabbits and then we will know the world is better, even if business is bad.

## THE MEAT EATERS.

Take it the world over and the annual consumption of meat amounts to 29 pounds per capita. Here in these United States, however, the figures rises to 180 pounds a head. The American is the world's champion meat eater. The average citizen of the United States will every year eat much more than his weight in red beef. The Englishman is supposed to be a terror in the meat line, but he only takes on an average of 120 pounds a year. Of course, the vegetarian will insist that the Americans are the lowest type of civilization and are a feeble,

## KEEP LOOKING YOUNG

It's Easy—If You Know Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets

The secret of keeping young is to feel young—to do this you must watch your liver and bowels—there's no need of having a sallow complexion—dark rings under your eyes—pimples—a bilious look in your face—dull eyes with no sparkle. Your doctor will tell you ninety per cent of all sickness comes from inactive bowels and liver.

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## NEW ROOSEVELT HIGHWAY BILL

Measure Re-Enacting Government Contingency Clause

The third Roosevelt highway measure of this session of the legislature will be introduced in the house today. It will declare the proposed Roosevelt highway a state highway to which state highway funds may be applied, but re-enacts the clause of the original act of the 1919 special election making the application of state funds contingent upon the government matching the money dollar for dollar. R. A. Booth, chairman of the state highway commission, is in accord with the bill.

## BITS FOR BREAKFAST

Washington's birthday.  
 Another near-spring day yesterday.

This may be the last day of the present session of the legislature; but it may be a very long day.

There is likely to be a great deal of activity in building at the state fair grounds this year, and if all the building projects that are now on the tapis for Salem mature, 921 is going to lay it over any past year in the history of this city.

There is a proposition for the United States to buy the British West Indies for \$4,277,000; the amount of the war debt of Great Britain to this country. Would not that be the greatest real estate transaction in history, in point of price paid?

The loganberry growers of northern Marion county are to ask a minimum of 7 cents a pound for the coming crop. Being so modest, they will likely get it. A high authority said yesterday that they may have to take 6 cents, but he would not be surprised to see 7 cents the ruling price.

Things are going through the legislature so fast now that one is bewildered in attempting to keep up with the procession. But there will be plenty of time to refer a lot of the bills to the people, in case they are found too raw.

All members of the highway commission are in agreement with the committee on roads and highways on the highway district bill, a measure also on the Roosevelt highway program. While the importance of this measure may be decreased to some extent by the new bill to be introduced today, it will apply to all parts of the state and is considered as a convenient act to have on the statute books.

This measure enables parts of counties, any entire county or any group of contiguous counties to form a municipal corporation for road construction purposes. Amendments have been made whereby boundaries of the proposed district must be submitted to the highway commission for approval; also so the commission would be apprised of the routes of proposed roads and would make the surveys before giving approval.

A question has arisen whether in the vote on the formation of districts non-taxpayers should be allowed to vote. Senator Hall, chairman of the senate committee, believes they should. The commission is inclined to believe the ballot should be confined to taxpayers, fearing that interests opposed might organize their employees against a proposed district and defeat it.

Why is it that the young women insist on hiding their ears? Nobody asked them to.

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| Oregon City, Oregon—<br>Bank of Commerce.   | Silverton, Oregon—<br>Coolidge & McLaine.  | <b>COMPANY OFFICES</b>                  |   |
| Portland, Oregon—<br>Electric Building, Broadway and Alder; O. W. F. Station, First and Alder; St. Johns Office, 209 1/2 N. Jersey; Center St. Shop Car Barn Office, 28th and Center; Seaside Car Barn Office; Astoria Office, Kingsworth and Michigan; Astoria Car Barn Office, 24th and Savier Streets. |  |   |   |
| Salem, Oregon—237 North Liberty Street.<br>Vancouver, Washington—Tenth and Main Streets.<br>Oregon City, Oregon—519 Main Street.  |  |   |   |

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