

# The Oregon Statesman

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## INSULTING 3,000,000 BRAVE MEN

It isn't surprising at all that Oswald West, former Governor of Oregon, should rally bitterly and furiously to the defense of his brother-in-law, political protege, former campaign manager and present representative, Ben W. Olcott, acting Governor of Oregon.

That is only natural. Os owes a great deal to Ben and Ben owes a great deal to Os.

And besides Os expects to owe a great deal more to Ben before the last vestige of that erstwhile West-Chamberlain-Olcott hybrid Democratic nonpartisan political machine is broken up.

As it will be, the first time the people of Oregon, who have had his accidenty, Ben Olcott foisted upon them by reason of the lamentable death of James Withycombe a few months after the people had repudiated, by so overwhelming a vote, Olcott's attempt to gain the Governorship by election.

But we are just a little amazed that Brother-in-law West should adopt the vicious course of attempting to cast aspersions upon the war record of one of The Statesman's staff.

We see no particular reason why Brother-in-law West should have gotten so exercised over a simple editorial in The Statesman reflecting what is believed to be the curiosity of thousands of citizens as to why Brother-in-law Ben did not use his talents for flying to a little better purpose.

We merely suggested that our dove chasing, pigeon racing, happenstance Governor would have been a valuable asset on the Western Front during the World War.

We have always believed that he could have been of more service to his country, being a young and active man, had he taken that course, instead of "fighting the war" by remaining snugly at home and running for Governor against Oregon's magnificent old war Governor, James Withycombe.

With his energies properly directed, he might have helped do to the German army what he and Brother-in-law Os failed to do to James Withycombe and the Republican party in Oregon during the war.

Just why these gentle and useful reminders should have sent Oswald into a paroxysm of rage, which he vented through the columns of one of those Democratic newspapers which alone sympathizes with the West-Olcott combination, we cannot for the world understand.

He makes a particular point of the fact that Colonel Abrams fought part of the war in England, charging that the service there was by choice.

If this cowardly slander merely reflected on Colonel Abrams, whose service in four wars makes it unnecessary for anyone to defend his patriotism or ability, the matter could be dismissed without reply. Colonel Abrams' discharge from the Spanish war and Philippine campaign shows a record of having participated in 43 battles and engagements.

But the slander involves 800 other Oregonians living in every part of Oregon, who, when their regiment, the glorious old Third Oregon, was broken up, were sent to England for duty.

It involves in its slanderous boundaries such men as Major Eugene Moshberger of Woodburn, who left a wife and five babies at the first call, and who also served in England under Colonel Abrams. It involves such men as Major Clarence Hotchkiss of Portland, of Captain Grover Todd and Phil Livesley of Woodburn, and 800 other Oregon men who served in England with Colonel Abrams.

And what is still worse—

It involves Colonel John L. May, Chaplain W. S. Gilbert, Major Loren A. Bowman, Walter L. Spaulding, Dr. Pound, commander of our American Legion post at Salem, and is a challenge to the valor and a gratuitous insult to the honor of every officer and man of the army, who through no reason of his own, did not get to the front in France, or did not leave the United States during the war, and there are some 3,000,000 of them—25,000 of them in Oregon.

If the wanton slander which Brother-in-law West has uttered, came from some beribboned hero of many battles, it

would be intolerable enough. But, since he has raised the issue, let us see what his service to his country consisted of. Brother-in-law West was lawyer and lobbyist at Washington for the Spruce division and the timber interests. It is no secret that he amassed a fortune through his war efforts.

If the men who served in the army are cowards, certainly the last man who should raise the cry is the man who was feathering his nest as a spruce lobbyist while 50,000 American boys were paying the supreme sacrifice overseas.

Panama has not formally declined to accept the Hughes award relating to the Costa Rica boundary situation. She is thinking about it. Panama will accept all right, but her pride must be catered to.

The canal toll exemption issue looms before the special session of congress. That might be taken up after the tariff and other more important things are disposed of.

What ex-President Wilson thinks of the book of his former secretary of state has so far been confined to a large volume of blank pages. Possibly Woodrow is too full for utterance.

Salem will have to hurry if she expects to keep ahead in the asparagus industry. There are others—Eugene, for instance. That is the Salem slogan subject for Thursday.

The new Chinese minister who has just presented his credentials at Washington worries aloud under the burden of the name of Sao-Ko Alfred Sze. But an oriental under any other name would smell as sweet. Sze?—Exchange

The Spanish cabinet and the press of that country are at odds. The official body declines to let the press have the news through its own reporters. There must be a Woodrow Wilson at the head of the Spanish cabinet.

Has there been a post-war let-up of mental as well as moral muscularity among American youth? The latter is indicated by the crime wave of the past few months, many of the offenders being mere lads. The former is suggested by the reports on slinking at various colleges. At Ohio State 500 students, or 10 per cent of the total enrollment, failed to pass the first semester examinations, and face the alternative of dropping out or doing work over again, in which their parents' investment was perhaps \$200,000.

A private letter from Yale states that 90 lads were dropped from the freshmen class the other day because of failure to get satisfactory scholastic averages. The University of Michigan has dropped 150 students. There are scattering reports of similar tenor from elsewhere.—Cincinnati Times Star.

The death of Al G. Field, the negro minstrel, at his home in Columbus, O., removed a unique character from the field of amusement. In the first place, his name was not Field at all, but Hatfield. In the second, minstrel performers are supposed to sing and dance or at least be accomplished in one line. Field could do neither. He was as funny as an undertaker and his monologue (the only thing he contributed to the show) was always written by someone else. The writer of this ought to know, because he had the job for a number of seasons. Field was a minstrel from a purely commercial standpoint and he got rich at it. Year after year he traveled over the same country, filling dates in the same towns. Originally he had charge of a band of Indians with the Sells Bros. circus.—Los Angeles Times.

### ON THE JOB.

The activities of the government are manifold. The public service not only demands statesmen and postmasters, but men who can measure clouds and count sheep and goats. It wants experts who can prepare specifications for great bridges and it wants men who can pick pansies. Just now the government is suffering for the services of a couple of studious gents who are familiar with the life and habits of the tumble bug and can train him for a more useful career.

### FUTURE DATES

April 19, Tuesday—Highland Parent Teacher association meets at Highland school.  
 April 22, Friday—Dual Debate between Willamette and Whitman.  
 April 28, Thursday—Marion County Children's bureau clinic at Commercial club.  
 May 4, Wednesday—Apollo club in concert with Virginia Rae, soprano, at Armer.  
 May 5 to 8 inclusive—Annual conference of Evangelical Association.  
 May 7, Saturday—Celebration of Founders' day at Champeong.  
 May 7, Saturday—Marion County track meet and baseball tournament.  
 May 26, 27 and 28—Baseball, Willamette vs. Whitman, at Walla Walla.  
 June 16, Thursday—Oregon Pioneer association meeting in Portland.  
 June 17, Friday—Annual Iowa picnic, State fair grounds.  
 October 1, Saturday (tentative)—Football, Willamette vs. O. A. C. at Corvallis.  
 November 24, Thursday (tentative)—Thanksgiving day, football, Willamette vs. Multnomah, at Salem.

They also want a man who is absolutely fearless in the presence of a cockroach and would not shrink if required to lead one of the monsters right up to a laboratory index. The government is a very paternal institution. It looks after our present and protective needs, whether we are working or sleeping. If we want to know about anything all we have to do is to write to Mr. Harding or some of his gentlemanly assistants.

Business, of course, is bad in Germany today, as Mr. Schwab says. It couldn't well be otherwise. But the German plants are still standing and the labor army is waiting to operate them at full speed. Recently a mammoth expansion of the Leipzig fair was announced. The largest exposition building in the world has been planned for this. Can only mean that the promoters expect the fair to be more than ever a clearing-house for trade with central and eastern Europe.—New York Tribune.

### WOMEN MORE HONEST.

The arrest of a young woman stenographer in Brooklyn for taking \$18,000 of her employer's money, in operations extending over two years, calls attention to how rarely the crime of misappropriation is charged against women employees. As a rule, all employing women testify that honesty in handling funds is one of their typical characteristics. This may be explained either as superior morality or lack of the same temptations as men, but it is on record, whatever the cause, as a matter of fact.—Baltimore American.

### BROTHERLY LOVE.

One vessel which docked at Tokio the other day is said to have had no less than 25 Christian missionaries from the churches of California. The Japanese are said to have a sense of humor. It will come in play if they have. They can read our anti-Japanese laws and the speeches of some of our politicians at Sacramento and then go down and hear the missionaries from California expound the doctrine of brotherly love.—Los Angeles Times.

### THE JUVENILE COP.

In Philadelphia the services of school children have been utilized in looking after street traffic. The larger pupils are drilled under the direction of the police force and have been formed into what is called the safety patrol service. These juvenile officers take care of traffic in the vicin-

ity of all schools and see to it that younger pupils are not imperiled. The safety patrols are also available for emergency service at other stations and are qualified to handle the movement of traffic at the busiest crossings should occasion require. Incidentally, the young people are taught to know the law and regulations and respect them. Likewise, the city is getting a certain form of police service at little cost. Almost every youth has at some time indicated a desire to be a policeman. If this passion can be capitalized for the good of the state it would seem like fine business.

### BLIND MAN'S INVENTION.

Sometimes the activities of the blind are marvelous. Most praiseworthy is the work of a sightless scientist in Illinois. He has invented a new type of airship which he calls the aeralane, which has responded successfully to the trials made. It differs from other machines in that the planes are circular, six in number and are at the top of the invention. They work something after the manner of a turbine. This enables the aircraft to arise like a bird and to hover in the same manner. No extensive runway is necessary to make a start and the matter of alighting is made simpler and easier. If all works well many of the hazards of the flying game would be removed, as these are usually concerned with the landing of the machine or its "hopping off."

Blindness usually results in a high development of the other senses which may be used to great advantage. A blind person is far from being helpless. Some of the tragedies of the war are finding themselves and proving themselves of real value to industry.

### INSIDE OR OUT.

So far as some of those in authority at Washington are concerned, the United States would be in the position of running a League of Nations and shaping its policies without itself assuming any of the obligations of membership. This isolated entanglement would be all right if it could be maintained in perpetuity, but it is far from strengthening to a League and there are many smaller nations whose future peace and progress are conditioned upon the maintenance of a league of some kind. National selfishness is excusable to a cer-

tain point, but a country that has so nobly played the part of Sir Galahad should not so quickly revert to the character of Shyllock.—Los Angeles Times.

### TO ELECTRICITY.

The elemental labors of the worlds  
 That course without the metes of time and space  
 Beyond the last speck of dreariest star-dust  
 May come at last to you, be one with you  
 Forever and forever. When we go  
 To shattering atoms with the hands of gods  
 We may discover worlds within strange worlds  
 Wherein you stand, the primal energy.  
 Not other than the mighty soul of man!  
 —John Russell McCarthy.

### BITS FOR BREAKFAST

April showers  
 Blossom day was a success; as to the crowds attending and as to what there was to see.  
 Now if it could be made certain that there will be a good market for all the fruit the blossoms advertise as coming, things in the Salem district would take on a look of great prosperity.  
 The emergency tariff bill is to be pushed through the senate and on to the president next week. The main tariff bill ought to be ready by this time.  
 The wage scale of carpenters in Salem has been reduced from \$7.50 to \$7.20 a day of eight hours. Not a great succession; but every little bit will help in getting more of the needed homes built.

There is still room for some more broccoli growers in the Salem district. There will not be too many, as long as the seed holds out. The more growers the better market, and the higher the price for all. For quality stuff.

Salem is going to have more tourist travel than ever this year. And there will be more for them to see; and more inducements for them to stay.

### A REASON

At the industrial school they teach the pupils not only the lessons of the day but require them to keep the schoolrooms and parashernalia in order as a means of acquiring neatness.  
 "Imagine the indignation of the teacher, then, when she discovered that on a certain Monday morning the huge geography globe had not been dusted.  
 "It's astonishing," she cried. "Well, it ought to be," said one of the pupils in an audible whisper, "she's got her finger on the Sahara Desert."

## "PRINCESS PAT" AND HER BABY.



Lady Patricia Ramsay, who before her marriage to Commander Ramsay, of the British navy, was the much sought Juliet of many Romeos. She is shown with her little son. As a daughter of the Duke of Connaught, then Governor General of Canada, she was the sponsor of the famous Princess Pat Regiment of the Canadian army.

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