

# The Oregon Statesman

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## "WESTERN IDEAS"

"At the risk of hurting the feelings of New York, which fondly imagines itself to be the center of the universe, we feel impelled to remark on the strength of personal observation as well as on information derived from the experience of others, that the Pacific coast states of this Union are from three to five years ahead of the East in social and business development.

"Most of the new ideas which contribute to the comfort or convenience of American life, or facilitate business intercourse, have their birth in the Far West and reach us when they are 'old stuff' to points west of the Sierras. We might cite scores of instances in support of this statement, but are at present concerned with but one of them, which has to do with advertising.

"California, Washington and Oregon produce excellent fruit. You have heard about it. They took pains to let you know. The producers of oranges, raisins, cherries, apples and other fruits have banded together to exploit their products in the Eastern markets, and have conducted their propaganda in such a businesslike and scientific way that their favorite brands are household words here. Now, we do not produce oranges, it is true; but we raise many appetizing fruits which bear comparison with the best of the Western products. New York state apples, for instance, are not to be sneezed at. Delaware has a wonderful opportunity for the exploitation of branded (not branded—heaven forbid!) peaches. Why does it not occur to our Eastern fruit growers to popularize their superior products by co-operative advertising? Why let Eastern consumers suppose that the only apples worth eating are grown on the other side of the continent?

"The answer is given in the first paragraph. The Western idea hasn't had time enough to soak in. But peaceful penetration is at work, and we shall eventually be taught to ask for the products of Eastern growers by brand names, and pains will be taken to pack and ship and sell these fruits so that they will live up to the reputation advertising will make for them, and the fruit men will do better business in a more reliable market. In all of which work the newspapers will play a leading part, as they have done in popularizing Pacific coast fruits."

The above quoted article was not written by a California man; nor was it written by a citizen of Washington or Oregon.

It is a leading, double-leaded editorial from the Philadelphia Record of September 11. It is enough to make all of us out this way very "chesty," especially when it is realized that the writer is evidently a little shy on his geography, and thinks the Sierras extend up to the British Columbia line. They do, but they are called the Cascades up this way.

Intelligent advertising, such as is employed by our Washington and Oregon apple and prune growers, and our concerns marketing loganberry juice, dehydrated fruits and vegetables, etc., is good. But quality is also quite as important, and in this respect the Salem district, and western Washington and Oregon and northern California have a number of quality products besides those already advertised in the East, on which we have what amounts to a franchise; like the oranges and lemons and raisins of California. Reference is made to our filberts, walnuts, flax, black raspberries, Oregon Champion gooseberries, quality strawberries, Bosc pears, cherries, Evergreen blackberries, White Michem peppermint oil, Angora mohair, broccoli, quality hops, world record cows, seed potatoes, vetches for seed, cascara bark, bulbs and seeds of several kinds, milling oats, etc., that will bear national advertising campaigns, and that can have either no competition at all east of the Rockies; or no competition worth while.

"Dividing alien families at our Ellis Island gates is strangely reminiscent of old slavery days," says an Eastern

newspaper. The heartbreaks and the bitter longings there must make the tasks of our immigration officers among the saddest in all the wide world—unless they grow rhinoceros hides and become callous hearted, and ice water instead of red blood runs through their veins.

There has been nothing in England, since the settlement of the Alabama claims, at all comparable to Lloyd George's love and admiration for Lincoln.

It has been discovered that "the healthiest spot in New York is on the crowded east side." That may give upper Fifth avenue something to think about.

During the week ended August 27 there were 13,273 more freight cars loaded with revenue freight than in the preceding week. This is but one sign of the picking up of business and the steady reduction of unemployment.

The father of President Harding, age 77, is a candidate for superintendent of the soldiers and sailors' orphans' home at Sandusky, Ohio. Wonder if he has any influence with the president since he eloped with his secretary?

The old adage that "diplomatic language is intended to conceal thought" ought to be taken out of the mothballs and dusted off for use in the coming international disarmament conference.

## "MISNAMING THE CONFERENCE"

"The suspicion that Democratic inspiration is behind the tendency to denote the Washington meeting as a 'disarmament' conference is strengthened by a statement made by Mr. McAdoo before a Kansas audience. He proposes a navyless world and holds out the hope that the conference will accomplish that very thing. The conference was called to discuss 'limitation of armaments,' and disarmament will form no part of its proceedings. It is probable that when the meeting adjourns with no agreement reached for the scrapping of navies, Mr. McAdoo will be the first to cry 'failure.' He is laying the ground now for the campaign of criticism the Democrats propose to launch the minute the conference ends, in an attempt to make capital for the political struggle of next year. Those editors who persist in referring to the Washington meeting as a 'disarmament' conference are unwittingly furthering the designs of the enemies of Republicanism."

The above writer is letting his political bias overshadow his common sense. There is little profit in a play on mere names. No one expects the conference to result in the immediate scrapping of all navies; but every right thinking person in the world hopes that it may pave the way for the discontinuance of the feverish race for bigger battleships and more of them, by the leading powers; and thus, the gradual wiping out of great navies by all the first class nations. And this may properly be called disarmament.

Disarmament is not taken to mean doing away with proper police forces in any country; such as are needed for the protection of life and property and the enforcement of the laws; nor, indeed of the lack of proper preparations for defensive purposes in case of foreign invasion—nor even of the maintenance of skeleton organizations and ample supplies and equipment for offensive action, in order to maintain the rights of any country.

NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED. "There are not 6,000,000 unemployed in this country—probably not more than half this number. Hundreds of thousands of women and girls, lured into industry, have returned to their former occupations. In the rural regions, which furnish employment to nearly half our labor army, there is little excess of help. There is a positive increase in employment in the building trades, and more automobiles are running about than ever before. The silk shirt period may have passed, but it should not be mourned for. Such an increase in savings bank deposits as the last report showed is better. That normal conditions have not been wholly re-established is, of course, patent. The readjustment of prices is not complete, and until it is, a deterrent influence will be at work. So there is call for courage and generosity, for thrift and fellow feeling, but that person is no friend to the unemployed who wears a lonzer face than the facts justify and who bemoans what he calls the ap-

proaching conditions whose early coming he foresees."—New York Tribune. "One useful purpose to be served by the conference on unemployment, to be held in Washington the latter part of this month will be to ascertain with reasonable accuracy how many men who really want to work are unable to find anything to do. Estimates of unemployment run from 3,000,000 to \$6,000,000, and all the figures are mere guesses. Moreover, there are two classes of the so-called "unemployed"—those who are doing their best to find work at the wages offered, and those who are refusing to work at any wage less than a minimum standard fixed by Mr. Gompers or one of his lieutenants. Both classes may be out of work, but the command on public sympathy is far greater in the one case than in the other. The class of working men that should command the attention of the conference are those poor fellows who are seeking work at any living wage offered pending the time they can improve their condition by stepping into a better paying job. Those are the truly unemployed, and it is more than probable that the investigations of the conference will disclose the fact that there are far less than a million able-bodied men in that predicament."—Washington correspondence.

WORKED DURING RECESS. "While congress has been in formal recess, the fact is that a large proportion of the members—those serving on important committees—have been hard at work. The finance committee of the senate has been holding all-day, every-day sessions. The congressional joint commission on agricultural conditions has been in almost daily session. Subcommittees of congress preparing legislation on other subjects, have been attending strictly to business. It is erroneous, therefore, to accept the representation of the Democratic press that congress has been laying down on the job."

REMARKABLE EMPLOYMENT RECORD. Speaking of conditions on his road, President Daniel Willard of the Baltimore & Ohio, said recently: "I am not in a position to speak for the other roads, but I know my road and our employees, and I am confident that if the men have any grievances, they will be settled as we always settle them—in conference between workers' committees and officers."

Some cynical people will sneer at this as a mere attempt to forestall the efforts of outsiders to settle any differences that may exist, but there is manifestly good ground for Mr. Willard's assertion that in the past grievances have been settled by conferences between committees of workers and officials. Out of 56,000 workers, 20,000 have been with the road more than 10 years and an equal number have been with the road 20 years or more. The average length of service among the 56,000 men is 15 years. With record such as that, it is evident that there is justification for the use of language which expresses doubt whether any grievance exists, and also confidence that if a grievance does exist it can be settled by committees of officers and employees. There are few establishments in the country whose employees have been with the concern for an average of 15 years.

FUTURE DATES. September 21, Wednesday.—Sells-Floto Circus. September 22, 23 and 24.—Pendleton Round-up. September 26 to October 1.—Oregon State Fair. September 28, Wednesday.—State school. Allers' aid commission to open bids on \$5,000,000 bonds. November 21, 22 and 23.—Marion County Teachers Institute.

## BONUS QUIZ IS ANSWERED

Every crime wave, every deed of violence, every concerted attack on law and order, every open flouting of the statutes and authority, if it goes unpunished and unheeded, tends to weaken the structure of national life. Obedience to the laws of God and man must be taught and practiced, else there will be a gradual decline in civilization, as is so glaringly shown in Russia today.

The laws of this country are of the making of the people themselves. The people can unmake them, just as they made them. If they are dissatisfied with any existing statutes, they have an easy and effective remedy in the ballot. There is no need for them to violate laws when they can so readily, if it is the sense of the majority, change them to suit themselves. Meanwhile, as the attorney general points out, all laws must be enforced, for, as he says, "the government will endure on the rock of law enforcement, or it will perish in the quicksands of lawlessness."

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Four important questions relative to the application of the state bonus and loan act for ex-service men are answered by Attorney Gen. Van Winkle in reply to inquiries made by Captain H. C. Brumbaugh, secretary of the aid act commission:

"If a portion of an applicant's service was in the student army training corps," says the first question, "and applicant served more than 60 days in some other branch of the service, shall the time served in the student army training corps as a student be deducted from the total period of service in computing the cash bonus?"

Law is Clear. The opinion holds that the law clearly provides that the applicant must have served more than 60 days in the regular service before he is entitled to the privilege of the bonus and loan act, and that his time of service in the S. A. T. C. is not included in estimating his time of service.

Refund Considered. "Can the matter of refund under this section be handled by the commission as a deduction from the amount of the cash bonus or loan the applicant is found to be entitled to receive," the third question reads, "or will it be necessary for the applicant actually to refund the amount so received before his application can be approved? If the former method may be adopted, what disposition shall be made of the amount so deducted?"

The attorney general's opinion holds that "The refund may be retained by the commission from amount of bonus or loan paid, but the amount retained should not be credited to the bonus and loan fund, but should be deposited with the state treasurer and by him credited to the appropriation from whence it originally came, the soldiers', sailors' and marines' educational aid fund; in other words, the general fund, that fund being the one appropriated for educational aid."

Farm and Home Loans. "Can the commission by rule withhold approval of a loan when the applicant states his desire or intention to use the money thus obtained for other purposes than the acquisition or improvement of a farm or home, or for the payment of existing obligations against such farm or home, or the purpose of purchasing farm machinery or household furniture?"

The answer says that "farm" or "home" would include acquisition, construction, establishment and completion of a home or farm which would include the items mentioned in the question, but no others."

BITS FOR BREAKFAST. Fine rain. But hope it is over, or about through. One farmer told the writer that the ground was wet down to the roots of his corn. "It will ring off now, a lot of good will have been done, and little harm."

## RAIN DAMAGES POLK'S FRUIT

Signs of Cracking Seen in Prunes—Grain Farmers Welcome Downpour

DALLAS, Or., Sept. 19.—(Special to The Statesman)—The heavy rains of Sunday and today have done some damage to the fruit in this vicinity especially the prunes which were ripe and which have not yet been picked. A thorough investigation of a number of the orchards about Dallas this morning revealed that in cases where the prunes were exceedingly ripe the fruit had developed small cracks near the stem.

This does not necessarily mean that the fruit will continue to split the whole way down but if the rains continue as they did last year the loss to this crop alone will run into thousands of dollars as there are quite a number of orchards where the picking was to have started this morning.

Farmers generally think the rain is a God-send as they will now be able to start plowing, the ground heretofore being so dry as to make fall plowing impossible. All farmers in Polk county have their grain threshed and most of them are far along with their fall work outside of plowing.

Several prune dryers which have been running upon about 100 boxes of fruit a day will be forced to shut down for the fall and will have their fruit dried elsewhere as it makes it too expensive to run a dryer with small lots of prunes coming in and especially so when the weather is so threatening that the harvest is uncertain.

Mrs. Blank.—My luck seems to leave me when I play cards. Mrs. Fort.—It isn't your luck, dear it's your common sense.

## Multnomah Male Chorus To Sing at Silverton

SILVERTON, Or., Sept. 19.—(Special to The Statesman)—Arrangements are being made to have a full house welcome the Multnomah Male chorus which is scheduled to appear at Silverton next Sunday afternoon. It is seldom that a Silverton audience has the opportunity to hear any of the really worth while things along the musical lines. During the past year various local organizations have made it their business endeavor to obtain and bring entertainments along this line to Silverton and each time the organization has been rewarded by a full house. This time it is the Trinity Young People's society that is sponsoring the Multnomah chorus.

The chorus of 5 voices is well known as a part of the Pacific Coast Singers association which recently held a successful "Sangster" at Astoria. Prof. Carlo Sperati, the director of the Luther College Concert band which recently gave a concert at Silverton, was once the director of the chorus which will sing at Silverton on September 25. The chorus under the leadership of Professor Sperati toured Europe in 1914 with the concert band.

The songs of the chorus will include many old Norwegian folk songs besides some of the well known compositions by Bull, Greig, Kjerulf, Ole Odlsen, Svendsen, and Sinding.

## Polk County Soil Survey Is Only Half Completed

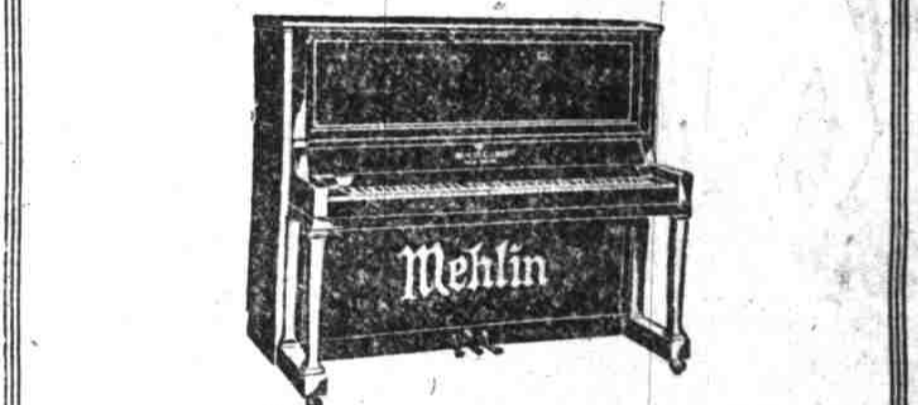
INDEPENDENCE, Or., Sept. 19.—(Special to The Statesman)—The soil survey being made of Polk county is about half completed and work has been suspended until next spring. The work has been under the supervision of E. F. Torgerson of Oregon Agricultural college and Charles Hartman, their headquarters was in this city while work was being done in classifying the soils in

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