

The Oregon Statesman

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THE MOST IMPORTANT LAW PASSED

The writer, even at this late time, still believes the Oregon legislature, whose hours are closing as these lines are written, is, on the whole, the ablest legislature Oregon ever had.

And, on the average, as honest and hard working and well intentioned as any of its predecessors. What was the most important piece of legislation passed at this session? There would be many answers, if this question were put to various men; owing to their differing interests—the things with which they are most concerned and best acquainted.

The flax men who met with the Salem realtors at luncheon yesterday would agree that the penitentiary revolving fund law was the most important—

And the writer agrees with them. This law takes all the revolving funds of the prison (four of them) and puts them into one industrial revolving fund.

It puts \$100,000 new money into this revolving fund, and all the money in the other funds, too; and all the earnings from now on, besides. So, instead of having \$100,000, that fund has, or will soon have, \$150,000. Then it authorizes the governor and superintendent of the prison to borrow from the state treasury as much as \$50,000, at not more than 4 per cent interest, to pay for raw materials and labor in working them up; this money to be repaid when they are worked up.

So the reader will see that the governor and superintendent have a good deal of leeway. Then this law gives these men authority to make rules for the revolving fund; to say when there are profits; to keep the profits in the funds as they see fit, and to pay part of them into the maintenance fund, when they get to the point in their operations where they may do this without impairing their activities or industrial expansion.

So it is a permanent law—made for all time. And the writer believes that under it the prison will become self sustaining, and will become a model prison.

And that under it a foundation will be put under the flax and linen industries, so that they will sooner than would have otherwise been possible become the greatest industries in Oregon.

Are these things not important? Is there any other one thing as important, touched upon in the legislation of the present session?

PRESIDENT JAY UPTON

When Jay Upton became president of the Oregon senate he was bitterly attacked by the opposition, chagrined at their own defeat. An attempt was made to throw a cloud upon his character and many doubted the wisdom of the choice.

Now that the session is at an end, an appraisal can be made of President Upton's work.

By his wise and nonpartisan committee appointments he disarmed those who had regarded themselves his enemies, and brought the discordant factions of the senate together into a harmonious working body. What bitterness remained was gradually worn away, until there was a sincere hard-working senate, composed of some of Oregon's most able

citizens, conscientiously trying to enact legislation that would cure some of the ills now burdening the people of the state. President Upton's voice has seldom been heard in debate on the floor of the senate, but his guiding hand has directed and controlled the work of the body in every move, and to his genius and diplomacy has been due most of the harmony and efficiency of the session.

As a presiding officer Upton has few equals. Men who have attended numerous sessions as members or visitors are a unit in pronouncing him one of the finest presiding officers that ever yielded the gavel in the senate chamber.

His fairness, thorough understanding of parliamentary principles, keen intellect, presence of mind and ability to make quick decisions and make them right, have won increasing respect as the days of the session progressed, while his oratorical voice and fine stage presence have been a constant source of admiration.

We congratulate the senate on its efficient organization.

A number of important building projects for Salem are on the tapis. You need not be surprised at startling developments in this field. Watch Salem grow.

The Statesman of next Thursday will show that Salem is an important poultry center, and becoming more so fast—making strides toward becoming the Petaluma of Oregon.

There will now be no doubt concerning the working up of all the fiber flax produced in this district, into tow and fiber; and the beginnings of carrying its manufacture to articles of higher value will be made this year. We will now progress gradually and surely on the way to a great flax and linen center.

Under the debt agreement the British nation will have sixty-two years within which to pay what it owes the United States. This ought to strengthen the contention that the next generation bear some of the burdens, principally as a reminder that wars are terribly expensive.

The advance in the prices of building material will be a shock to those who have put off the erection of a home, hoping that prices would recede. Instead of doing so they are advancing. These are great times.

In Italy, at the recent election, it was decreed that all who did not vote were ill and, this being so, those who neglected to cast their ballots would be given a dose of castor oil. Such a law in the United States would probably not work as smoothly as it did in Italy.

It is now asserted that the latest 5-cent cigars are made of spinach, thus removing a blot from the more or less excellent reputation of the cabbage. And incidentally, perhaps, adding to the prestige of Salem, the coming spinach center of the world.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Mrs. Livingston of the W. C. T. U. declares that the women of

America are better educated than the men. Evidently men of high-brow tendency are of the same opinion, for they always turn to the women's clubs when looking for a sympathetic audience. And many platform lecturers would often go hungry did not the women's clubs open their doors to them. This, however, may merely prove that women are pluckier and more long-suffering than men.

WORLD'S RICHEST MAN?

Another picturesque personality has had the veil of mystery that surrounds him torn asunder by an indefatigable American newspaper correspondent. This is Sir Basil Zaharoff, the richest man in Europe, who has constantly refused to be interviewed or give out any facts regarding his strange life. He was considered a great enigma in Europe, but the American writer snooped industriously around the Levant, whence he came, and Greece and dug up a lot of facts that doubtless make the Levantine wish that he had met the correspondent and furnished him with his own version of his career.

He is seldom heard of in America, but he is richer than the Rothschilds and, some financial writers insist, the richest man in the world. He controls the oil of Europe and the Near East and is believed to be the power behind the "Dutch Shell" by most financiers. Like most Levantines he is practically a man without a country, throwing his influence now toward the Turks and again in favor of the Greeks, as the policy of the moment dictates.

The career of this man, who has been dubbed a modern Count of Monte Cristo, reads like the wild ravings of a writer of melodramatic fiction. The impressive fact for Americans is that he was born of poor parents at Constantinople, started life humbly as a fireman and at 72 is the financial giant of Europe. Such achievements are common in America, but most unusual in Europe, where the cards are usually stacked against a man who is born in lowly circles.

EDITORIALS OF THE PEOPLE

Salem School Needs

Editor Statesman:

The Chamber of Commerce has called attention to the fact, shown by statistics, that outside of Portland, Salem is really the best-equipped educational center of Oregon. The committee appointed to help the board of education carry out a constructive building program, has dug up statistics that should appeal to the friends of education. The statistics gathered are from the latest official data on file with the superintendent of public schools and include the following showing of increased enrollment in the last four years:

Table showing enrollment statistics: Enrollment Feb. 1, 1919 2671; Enrollment Feb. 1, 1923 3908; Enrollment increase in 4 years 1237; Estimated enrollment June 1, 1923 4185; Increase in 4 1/2 years 1514; Percentage of increase in 4 1/2 years 56.6%

The school board has called an election for March 12 to issue bonds to finance a building program to provide for the needs of this school district for a period of 10 years, including permanent structures, as follows:

New wing at the high school, and units of permanent structure at Grant, Washington and Lincoln schools, and such improvements as may be needed in housing and equipment at the other schoolhouses of the city.

The Chamber of Commerce and a number of civic organizations and parent-teacher meetings, including the Chamber of Commerce, have endorsed this program.

The committee on civic improvements, after a careful survey, finds that 367 children are at present attending the public schools with only temporary housing. That is, that number have not regularly equipped school rooms for their daily sessions, but are meeting in basements, assembly rooms, offices, hallways, and other temporary structures. In this number are included 59 children from the public schools attending private and sectarian schools for lack of accommodations. If we take the growth of the district for the past four years as an index, the next two years will add 620 pupils to the public school enrollment.

COMING EVENTS

- Feb. 28, Wednesday, Children's Health clinic at Chamber of Commerce rooms. March 1, 2, and 3, Flying Squadron, in interest of Prohibition enforcement. Afternoon and evening meetings in Presbyterian church. March 5, Saturday, Prof. E. S. Conklin talk on "Autosuggestion," before University's Women's club at Chamber of Commerce. March 5, 6, Monday and Tuesday, Lions minstrel show show for Boy Scouts.

LINCOLN

(Harry Bowling, in Los Angeles Times.)

Oft hath the traveler in the arid lands, Sighing for cool retreat and shady bower, Seen the gaunt yucca from the naked sands (Armed with some mystic storm-resisting power) Burst into fragrant unexpected flower; Hanging like bells beneath the burnt-out sky Fresh snow-white blossoms in a silvery shower; As though in answer to earth's desperate cry, Saying,—Though death be near—look up—God reigns on high!

So didst thou, Lincoln, feel the Presence nigh Through civic strife and party fury when The Union answered Sumter's fierce defiance And blood-red flung the challenge back again; Above the crash of arms and warring men Thy patient purpose bore, when God saw best, Strange spirit blossoms never known till then, To heal old wounds, bring hope to hearts opprest And break the last long chain that fettered this free west.

CHARGED WITH ATTACKING YOUNG WOMEN.



Alexander A. McArthur (right), artist and adopted son of John R. McArthur, millionaire builder, wanted by the Essex county, N. J., officials for trial on a charge of attacking two young women. He is fighting extradition and was photographed here with his attorney, S. D. Kessler (left) and Arthur P. McArthur.

OBITUARY

Mrs. Mary Ferguson. Mrs. Mary Ferguson died at the home of her son, J. C. Ferguson, at West Salem Thursday, February 22, 1923, at 1:30 o'clock a. m. Mrs. Ferguson, whose maiden name was Mary Eyre, was born in Lincolnshire, England, January 16, 1846, and came to America with her father's family in 1852, and of her eight brothers and sisters three are still living—George Eyre of Salem, Edward Eyre, living in California, and Mrs. Sallie Thompson, living in Illinois. In 1866 she was married to James Conn, who died in 1878, leaving one son, George Conn, who died in 1910.

On June 4, 1882, she was married to John Ferguson and of this union there was born one son, John C. Ferguson, who lives in West Salem and at whose home she died. The husband, John Ferguson, died at Newport, Or.,

Advertisement for MUSTEROLE, featuring an image of a man and text: 'Better Than a Mustard Plaster. For Coughs and Colds, Headache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism and All Aches and Pains. ALL DRUGGISTS. 35c and 65c, jars and tubes. Hospital size, \$3.00.'

Advertisement for Want Ads Work While You Sleep, featuring an image of a man in a uniform and text: 'Want Ads are tireless servants. They are always on the job for you. You can sell your used car, old books, pictures, furniture, etc., with their help. You can get roomers to add to your monthly income. Want Ads will help you land a good job or get competent help for you. Just telephone 23 and a pleasant-voiced ad-taker will help you.'

The Junior Statesman

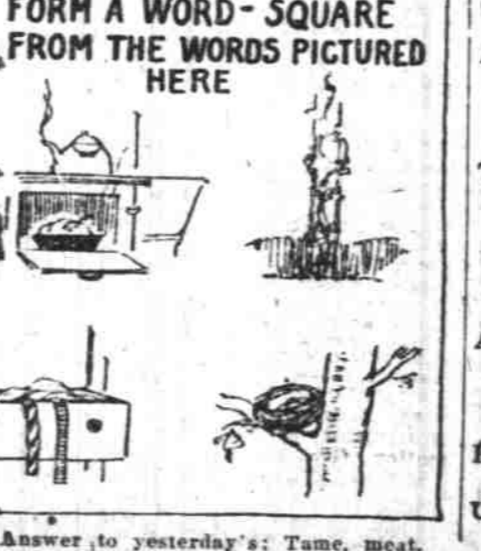
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Mammy Johnsing looked up over her tub of foaming white suds. "Land sakes, honey," she cried, "is it? I done forgot. My, but ain't you the smahtest chile! To think you would remember it!" Her whole black face shone with pride. There was to be a big celebration that night in the town hall just for him. George Washington had heard the man say so. "Oh, Mammy, kin I go, kin I?" he tugged at his mother's full skirts. "Sho you kin, honey," Mrs. Johnsing gave her son a sudsy pat on the head. "Yoah own birthday celebration," she declared proudly. "I'll go, too. My, of yoah daddy had only lived wouldn't he be proud? He was always such a smaht man. He named yoah lobe-ly long name and he learned me all I know. You take after him, honey, and I'm dat proud ob you." Mammy Johnsing wrung her hands from the warm suds and beamed upon her little son, "I'm goin' to make you a birthday cake, dat's what I'm agoin' to do," she declared. It was a wonderful day for George Washington Roosevelt Johnson. He had never known such a day. Although he thought the evening with its marvelous celebration would never come, the day itself flew past all too quickly.

At last the time for the celebration came and he and his mammy, both dressed in their Sunday clothes, started off for the town hall. There were songs and cheers that George Washington thrilled to and lustily joined in where he could. There were long speeches that George dreamed through and dozed when they were too long. At last when the celebration was nearly over his mammy got up, and leading him by the hand, started up the aisle. Stopping before the platform she smiled broadly at the surprised audience. "Ladies and Gemen," she began, "dis heah is de George Washington ob birthday

PICTURE PUZZLE

FORM A WORD-SQUARE FROM THE WORDS PICTURED HERE



THE FUN BOX He Might Raise It. Sammy: "Over in America we got a lilac bush 50 feet high." Tommy: "Wish I could lilac that." Mother: "Gracious! We must make a good impression. Give the baby the hymn book to play with." "What is the way to teach a girl to swim?" "That's easy. First you put your arm around her waist; then you take her left hand—" "But this girl is my sister." "Aw, push her off the pier." Father Speaks. "Father, what do you mean by a gentleman farmer?" "A gentleman farmer, my son, is one who seldom raises anything but his hat." College Style. Harold, aged six, was taken to see his first football game, and was much impressed. The thing that interested him most, however did not become evident until he said his prayers that night. As he knelt at his mother's knee, to the terror of his parents, Harold prayed with true football vim: "God bless father, God bless mother, God bless Harold, Boom! Rah! Rah!" Generous Minister. "Why do your sign your name J. John B. B. Bronson?" asked Hawkins. "Because it is my name," said Bronson. "I was christened by a minister who stuttered." Daughter. "The preacher just phoned and said he was coming to call this afternoon."

Answer to yesterday's: Tame, meat.