

# The Oregon Statesman

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## THE BOYS' TRAINING SCHOOL HEARING

Editor Statesman:  
 Dr. J. W. Hill of Portland is quoted as having appeared at the training school hearing in Salem, April 11, to say that it is impossible for a board of control to run a school satisfactorily.

This has not been true of the Oregon school; and if it were, it would not be a tithes as true as to say that no one-time visitors from Portland, fired by fervid oratory, can run the boys' school or any other school. The Portland delegation has been jazzed up by a settled, deliberate campaign launched to make it impossible to change the personnel of the school. Some of these visitors are curiously ignorant of the conditions that surround the Oregon school; possibly they may wish to be honestly informed.

Mr. Kuser and Mr. Gilbert had the same training, in the same school—the Iowa boys' school at Eldera. When Mr. Gilbert came to Oregon, the superintendent said of him and his wife, at an official farewell, that the school was losing its best executives; and especially, that Mrs. Gilbert had no superior and few equals anywhere, in handling boys.

The function of a school ought to be to look after its work in the school. The Gilberts were repeatedly urged to appear more away from the school; they held to the idea that they were paid to make a home for the boys, and that to leave the care of these boys to hired help, or to their own devices, was robbery of the state and of the priceless boys themselves. The boys need warm, human sympathy and care; this the Gilberts gave them, by staying on the job. If a superintendent, or a matron, can spend one-fourth, or one-half, the time away from the school, they can spend all of it away from the school; and the state ought to fire him and save the money.

Mr. Gilbert knew, and approved, of the cottage system for schools; he had nothing to do with building the Salem castle. He and his splendid wife did take there, and keep alive, the spirit of home for every boy; and they were always on the job to look after their charges. The cottage system was talked of long before Mr. Kuser was heard of. Mr. Gilbert was eminently capable of carrying it out.

It was stated at this hearing, as one objection to Mr. Gilbert, that the only logical arrangement is for the superintendent's wife to be the matron. Mrs. Gilbert was matron; such a motherly matron as most of her boys will remember with tears of gratitude. Mrs. Kuser was not matron of a boys' school before coming here. The Iowa idea, that is dragged in as the last word of school practice, prohibited the superintendent's wife from being matron; she lived in a home apart from the school, and had no official standing there. Mr. Gilbert's reappointment at this time, necessitates the appointment of a matron from outside; but that was the case in Iowa, when Mr. and Mrs. Kuser were there, and it can not be an insuperable bar here in Oregon—since all the other Iowa ideas are quoted as authoritative.

It is regrettable that two good men must suffer over a political row. Mr. Gilbert was discharged and would have

been disgraced if that were possible; Mr. Kuser, a capable institutional man, gave up a good position to take a political appointment at twice the money he had ever had, with the knowledge that an explosion might come at any time. He had a tremendous snap here in Oregon; it was offered him, and he accepted it on its face value.

Possibly he did not realize that the people have the last word in these political deals, and he thought the promises made him were final. That the biggest, sanest, cleanest court of last resort, the people, passed on the matter in so striking a vote last fall, should have been accepted as final. To keep on frantically lining up clubs and organizations in his own behalf, after the people had said the word, was pitiful; to take the state's time and the boys' time at almost \$20 a day and expenses, for this personal electioneering, was a gross mistake. It was said of Mrs. Kuser that she claimed to have attended the Legislature, every day of the recent session. The state paid her \$2,000 a year to look after the boys, as matron. This work, and most of the work of the school, is self-evidently best done at the school where the boys are.

The Gilbert friends, knowing the school affairs for years, were for letting all these things be forgotten; the Kuser friends, coming in with a frenzied uninformed hurrah, seem to be for tearing things wide open. They made a poor showing of fact at the public hearing; they can now do the school, and the Kusers, and themselves, much good by talking about the weather or some other subject that is not loaded with dynamite. They might visit the school after Superintendent Gilbert again takes charge; and then, after seeing the school in actual operation, make known their findings.

—PLAIN TRUTH.

Salem, Or., April 12, 1923.

What do the farmers think of the proposition to make the boys' training school self-supporting? The Statesman invites free and full comment on the plan.

The United Press reports from Washington that possibility of American membership in the League of Nations is being seriously considered by officials of the Harding administration. (With article X and some others stricken out or amended. If that idea is carried out, it will make a second term for President Harding as sure as the shining of the sun. And it will also bring a beginning of a reconstruction period looking to world prosperity and peace that should have been commenced immediately after the signing of the Versailles treaty.)

"Every man has a natural right to all that is necessary to his existence" is a Socialist doctrine that has come down from the French revolution. But when the Communists came to establish the

right they found there was not enough of the necessary things to go round. There is more reasonableness in the Roosevelt doctrine, "Every man must pull his weight in the boat or go ashore."

Communists in Moscow are spoiling the churches to build a monument to Rousseau, whom they salute as the first great Communist. If they had heeded his admonition that "Equality of possessions is essentially impossible in civilized society" they would have saved the people of Russia from untold misery.

President Harding has purchased the farm in Morrow county, Ohio, where he was born. The old place where, until he was 7 years of age, he went around with a stone bruise on his heel is very dear to the memory of the days of auld lang syne.

It would be hard to convince some of the reactionaries and place hunters and theorists that the most important thing, next to the humane treatment of the wards, is to give all the state institutions a larger measure of self support; and in the case of the penitentiary to make it entirely self-supporting; and perhaps the boys' industrial school too, in time. Self support adds to the degree of reformation; the prisons that are self supporting are the best disciplined and turn out the largest number of reformed men in proportion to the whole number. The Stillwater, Minn., prison, earning \$300,000 a year above its support, claims a record of 85 per cent of reformations—the highest in the world for such an institution. State institutions should not be regarded, as they are among the class known as "institution tramps," merely as places in which soft berths may be had. They are not primarily establish-

## FUTURE DATES

- April 13, Friday—Willamette Men's Glee club concert at armory.
- April 13, Friday—Captain C. H. Cook of Buffalo, national commander of Disabled War Veterans, to visit Salem.
- April 15, Sunday—Salem Automobile Tourist camp to open.
- April 17, Tuesday—Baseball season opens in Portland.
- April 19, to 21—Chautauque at Dallas.
- April 20 and 21—Christian Chattering.
- April 21, Saturday—American Association of College Women to meet in Salem.
- April 27, Friday—State peace intercollegiate oratorical contest, Walter hall.
- April 28, Saturday—Whitney Boys chorus at armory.
- May 5, Saturday—Al Kader temple of Shinto ceremonial in Salem.
- May 6, Sunday—Business Day.
- May 7, Monday—Twilight baseball league season opens.
- May 20, Saturday—May Festival, Hay, Jr.'s oratorio, "The Four Seasons."
- May 23, 29, 30 and 31—Oregon Jersey Jubilee.

ed with that end in view. There are sneering fellows who sit in the seats of the scorners who will tell you the Oregon penitentiary cannot be made self-supporting. If that is so, it is to proclaim the idea that the people of Oregon are on the average of a lower order of intelligence than the people, for instance, of Minnesota, Missouri and Alabama, whose prisons are more than self-supporting, and of a number of other states, like South Dakota, where the prisons are approaching the point of complete self support.

## Forest Protection Week Proclaimed by Governor

Governor Pierce has by official proclamation set apart April 22 to 23 inclusive as forest protection week in Oregon. This will be done by other states also at the request of President Harding. The proclamation calls upon schools, civic organizations, private citizens and the press to "unite in thought and

action looking to a better understanding of the need of protecting our forest resources and that it be brought to the attention of the public in every way possible that it is the duty of every citizen to help prevent and suppress forest fires."

**19 STUDENTS DROPPED**  
 EUGENE, Or., April 12.—Nineteen students of the University of Oregon were dropped from the rolls at the end of the winter term for failure to make the required grades, it was announced today. It was also announced that 33 women and 20 men were named as honor students during the term for exceptionally high grades.

Read the Classified Ads

**WILLAMETTE GLEE CLUB**

AT THE **ARMORY**

**TONIGHT, APRIL 13**

IN CONCERT

Students 50c. Adults 75c

No Reserved Seats  
Doors Open at 7:30



## Geo. C. Will Music Store

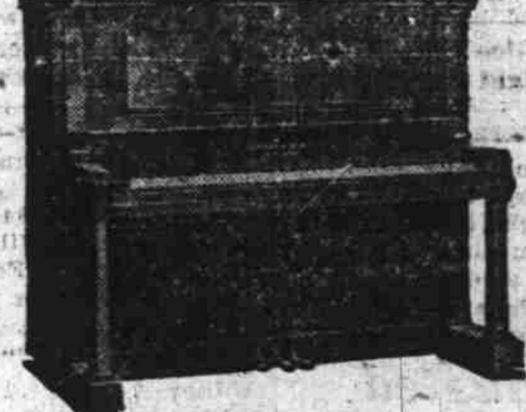
### TWO DAY

## Clearance of Used Pianos

Day by day, our stock of these high-grade used Pianos and Players is being depleted. Many homes in Salem have been quick to grasp the true significance of this value-giving event. But there still remain many choice instruments whose price tags tell a story that means a great saving. We have been in business here many years. We have during this time offered the best piano value possible, but never have we had on our floors as much real piano quality for so little money. And we will stand behind every Piano in this sale with our iron-bound guarantee. Terms of payment that are most convenient will be arranged for any instrument listed in this event.

### Rebuilt Upright Pianos

Approximate Cost	Price
Gates City	\$225
Newly & Evans	350
Lyon & Healy	395
Starr	450
Bradford	400
Kimball	750
Lyon	450
Mendelssohn	285
Doll	450
Hallet & Davis	475
Behr Brothers	400
Stuyvesant	425
Crown	450
Steinbeck	500
Gaylor	500
Goetz	400
Reed & Son	500
Bradbury	500
Swick	700
Kingsbury	450
Kohler & Campbell	450
Hallet & Davis	600
Bradbury	450
Camp & Co.	500
Sterling	475
Bacon	395
Walters	375
Ackerman	400
Gahler	400
Craftsman	395
Mathushek	425
Hamilton	395
Cable	400



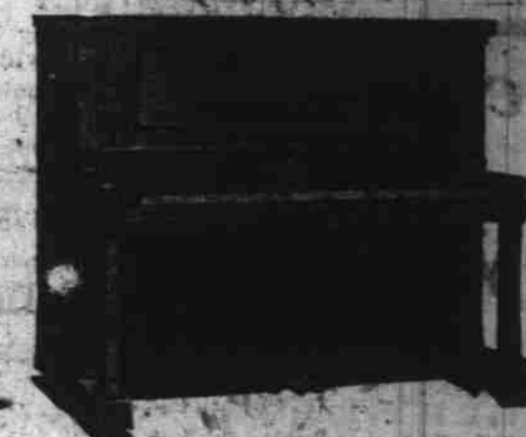
This **J. C. FISCHER** Thoroughly Reconditioned and Fully Guaranteed **\$185**  
\$5 down, \$1.50 a week



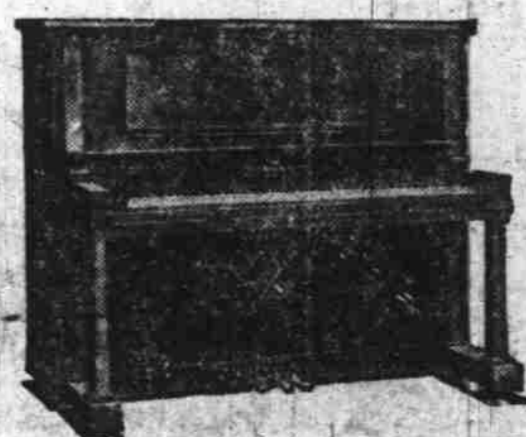
This **LYON & HEALY** in the Pink of Condition and Fully Guaranteed **\$100**  
\$5 down, \$5 a month



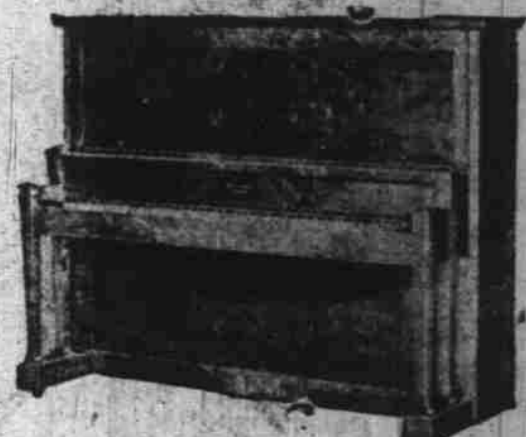
This **STARR** One of the World's Greatest Pianos. (You Cannot Go Wrong on This.) **\$110**  
\$5 down, \$5 a month



This **KIMBALL** Like New and it Plays Like a New Piano **\$295**  
\$5 down, \$1.50 a week



This **BUSH & LANE** in Beautiful Walnut Case Only **\$275**  
\$5 down, \$1.50 a week



This **BEHNING** One of the Only Fine Pianos **\$285**  
\$5 down, \$1.50 a week

### Rebuilt Player-Pianos



**\$335**  
For This Beautiful Miller Player Piano. Terms \$2 a Week

# The Junior Statesman

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## For Boys and Girls

### THE FUN BOX

**A Life That Failed.**  
 "If you love work, why don't you find it?"  
 "Alas, teacher, love is blind."  
**Don't Wait.**  
 "There was a fire at our school last week."  
 "Get out!"  
 "I did."



**Self-Question**  
 Miss Marsh—Name three things that contain starch.  
 Gordon—Two cuffs and a collar.  
**Good Example**  
 Registrar (to Freshman)—What is your name?  
 Freshie—Julie, sir.  
 Registrar—You should say Julius.  
 (To next boy)—What is your name?  
 "Billious, sir."

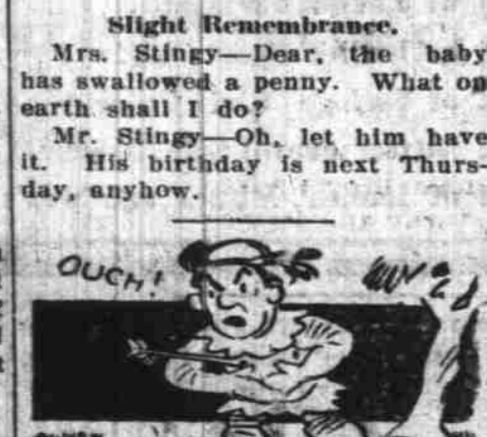
**Works Both Ways.**  
 Father—I said I'd thrash you if this occurred again. And didn't you promise never to do it again?  
 Johnnie—Yes, father, but as I didn't keep my promise I won't hold you to yours.

**Kind of Spectacles She Wanted**  
 A lecturer had been describing some of the sights he had seen abroad. "There are some spectacles," he said, "that one never forgets."  
 "I wish you would tell me where I can get a pair," exclaimed an old lady in the audience. "I am always forgetting mine."

**Try It.**  
 "Why is a false friend like the letter 'P'?"  
 "Because, though always first in pity, he is always last in help."  
**No Talent.**  
 John—You say Bert doesn't have much of a line?  
 Don—No, he can't even string a banjo.  
**Generous.**  
 Smith—When my uncle died he left all he had to an orphan asylum.  
 Rider—What did he leave?  
 Smith—Twelve children.

**The Wrong One.**  
 They kicked Tom off the football team.  
 "For being such a rummy; you see, poor Tommy tackled coach."  
**Slight Remembrance.**  
 Mrs. Stinky—Dear, the baby has swallowed a penny. What on earth shall I do?  
 Mr. Stinky—Oh, let him have it. His birthday is next Thursday, anyhow.

**Yes, Where?**  
 "What part of the body is the fray, teacher?"  
 "Fray? What are you talking about?"  
 "This book says, 'Ivanhoe was wounded in the fray.'" (Jokes for "The Fun Box" are collected from high school newspapers all over North America.)



## THE SHORT STORY, JR.

### A STORY OF HEELS

Eleanor thought she looked great As she tripped to the party in state.  
 She balanced a-tillt  
 Each heel like a stilt.  
 On the tips of her toes all her weight.



Eleanor pulled on her sensible flat-heeled oxfords, looking at her feet disapprovingly. "They look just like boy's shoes," she groaned. "Imagine having to wear such shoes when you're supposed to be dressed up. My new dress is really lovely, but these old oxfords are going to spoil it. I wish Mildred would let me borrow her new French heeled pump. But of course she wouldn't. They fit me perfectly. Oh, if mother would only let me get high heels."

There was a slam at the front door. Eleanor ran to look out the window. "Why, there goes Mildred now," she cried. "She must be going some place to spend the evening. She isn't wearing her new slippers, either. I'll just go in and see how they would look."

Eleanor kicked off her own oxfords and ran into her sister's room. Quickly pulling on the high-heeled pumps, she was delighted with the effect. They were beautiful! They weren't quite as big as her own shoes, but they pinched a little and Eleanor didn't mind that. If she could only wear them! Well, why not? Mildred wasn't there to mind and her mother wasn't at home. No one would ever know the difference.

Just then the door bell rang. It was the girls coming for Eleanor to go to the party. Grabbing her coat, she ran to the door as fast as she could in the unaccustomed high heels.  
 "Why, Eleanor," the girls gasped, "you're all dressed up! You know Frances told us just to wear our every-day dresses."  
 Eleanor only laughed. "Oh, I'm not dressed up," she denied,

trying to look like she wore French heels and silk every day. But she felt a little queer as she noticed that the other girls all wore their school dresses.  
 The first thing Frances noticed when she opened the door to let the girls in was Eleanor's dress and shoes. "Why, Eleanor Wood!" she cried. "Didn't I tell you not to dress up to come to my party?" She turned to the other girls. "Don't take off your coats, girls. Dad's rented the skating rink for the evening and we're going over there and have a 'skating party.'"



### PICTURE PUZZLE

THIS SIGN WAS SET UP IN FRONT OF A FARM. WHAT DOES IT MEAN?



Answer to yesterday's—Cry, say flag, wag, bag, tag.