

# The Oregon Statesman

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## ADOPT THE AMERICAN PLAN

Editor Statesman: There is a great deal of criticism of the way the school board has awarded plans for new school buildings and it was reflected somewhat in the recent school election. No one questions the honesty and sincerity of the members of the school board, but it is feared they are employing an old system that has not given us the best results in securing fine school buildings in the past.

Compared with other progressive communities Salem should have the finest public school buildings in the state, but no one ever has complimented this city on having beautiful and artistic buildings for its educational equipment. The trouble has been, there has been no general invitation to architects to participate in drawing plans. We have not availed ourselves of sufficient expert knowledge. There should be an effort to arouse public interest in this matter of more sightly and up-to-date architecture in our public buildings. How can this be brought about? By discarding the old system of handing out public building construction with no general program and without architectural competition.

The successful business man demands selection from the manufacturer of the best line of goods and after seeing samples from all who have a line to offer. Then he buys the best at the best price, for he knows his competitor is likely to have them in stock. The idea of Salem falling behind in public school architecture is not creditable to the intelligence, loyalty and patriotism of this community. Before the school board lets more contracts for new school buildings there should be open competition from the best architects in the state, and we should erect no more unsightly buildings.

What is the remedy? Not finding fault with the school board, but public sentiment that will compel the adoption of a better system. We must not forever deal with public matters of so great importance as erecting half a million dollars' worth of school houses in the old fashioned hand-empt-out to our friends manner of procedure.

The American Institute of Architects have a system of erecting public buildings based on a program of competition from the inception of the idea to the completion of the structure where public money is expended. The governing body, which is the school board in this case, invites architects to submit sketches of the proposed building, including at least elevations and floor plans, the arrangement of the building as well as for structural beauty. The idea of holding this open to competition is to gather the data from all sources and get the latest ideas and enable the board to get the best plans laid before it, competing architects sometimes being as high as ten or twenty. The governing body then awards first, second and third prizes in selection of plan most suitable for each proposed building and pays a fee covering the expense of the three plans, which then become the property of the board. The board can embody any of the ideas in any of the three plans on the final plan adopted. The board or governing body generally seeks the advice of a professional builder or adviser on their final selection or decision. On many bodies having the power to erect expensive public buildings there are men who have not the technical knowledge to enable them to decide so important a matter.

Under the American Institute of Architects' plan the board would after adopting a plan, or combination of ideas in the plans selected, let a contract and appoint their own superintendent of building. The old idea or political system of giving one architect complete control and supervision of construction of a public building on his own plans and specifications, most of which the governing body expending the taxpayers' money know nothing about until they are in the building, should be obsolete in an intelligent community. On top of the architect's commission on the whole structure, which has been five and six per cent, there have been cases of five and ten per cent commissions on materials in addition on public buildings in this state, and in many such monopoly awards only one contractor will be found bidding, and only one firm will supply plumbing, and other important materials. No competition in plans eliminates competition throughout.

Are we not good enough Americans to transact public business on the most modern and approved business methods? There is no mystery about the American Architects' system of awarding plans for public work and it is in general use in our country, but not in Oregon, which is still under the old worn out system under which no one gets a square deal.

This is a matter affecting the welfare, good feeling and moral integrity of the community. It cannot be taken too seriously. The taxpayers and the parents of children dependent on the best possible investment of the half million we voted in trust for our public administrators to expend demand that it be done in a manner not easily subject to attacks from the enemies of public schools, and not encouraging the unprogressive elements to open revolt when we ask for support in future.

-BUSINESS MAN.

Push on the lines for the loganberry growers, hoping they may get the jitney per lb.

Just to show that he is in earnest about the world disarmament John Bull has just launched the world's largest submarine.

Marshal Foch says that if he had his life to live over again he would choose to live in America. So most of the folks who get their mail in Europe are saying right now.

Talking about a sugar factory, one owned and operated cooperatively would probably benefit Salem and the Salem district most, because it might lead to other co-

operative efforts here. We should have cooperative seed growing. We should have a cooperative drug garden industry. A cooperative grape growing and juice industry would be a good thing. The list might be much extended.

If the growers cannot get 5 cents a pound for their loganberries, they can eat them, with the help of their neighbors—if they can spread the list of their neighbors over enough territory.

President Li of China has pulled back his resignation. He's a sort of Injun giver in the old boyhood days—the fellow who would hand you something and then want it back?

Old timers will remember that The Statesman yelled for years before this city got a woolen mill. But it finally came, and it has been adding to the business and

growth and prosperity of this city ever since. Still more important now is a sugar factory. In the first place, it would bring to our farmers a new paying crop. In the second place, it would employ a lot of labor. In the third place, it would pay well, whether owned cooperatively or otherwise. And in the fourth place, it would be an important step in the movement now going on to break the strangle hold of the sugar trust and the sugar gamblers upon the consumers of the United States.

## SWEDES AS CITIZENS

The results of an official survey of the Swedes of America by the Swedish consular general of New York are highly creditable to the representatives of that great Scandinavian race. It would be invidious to make any comparisons between the Swede and any other immigrant, but the facts speak for themselves and other races cannot complain if the finding is somewhat against them.

For instance, it is shown that 87.6 per cent of all Swedish immigrants are virtually 100 percent Americans within ten years after their arrival here. They are able to read and speak English and are naturalized citizens of the republic. The average for all immigrants in this respect is only 56.9 per cent, and this would, of course, be very materially reduced if the Swedes were eliminated from the calculation.

About seventy-five out of every 100 of all immigrants are able to read and speak English within ten years after their arrival, as compared with 57.6 per cent of the Swedes.

A majority of Swedes who have made their homes in this country are either technical men, highly skilled engineers often occupying high positions in America's greatest industrial institutions, trained workers in technical trades, or farmers. Swedes do not congregate in American cities. They go to the farms and become producers and contributors to America's resources. They are found most numerous in the spring wheat growing sections. About one-fifth of all the Swedish male immigrants—the first generation—become farmers.

Reports show that an important change is taking place in the occupations of Swedish women in this country. About two-thirds of all Swedish immigrants were classed as servants, housekeepers, maids and waitresses, but their daughters become brain workers. The survey proves, what has long been recognized, that the Swedes make citizens of the highest type and are a contribution to the greatest value to the nation. Thrifty, industrious, intensely loyal and patriotic, ambitious and thoroughly dependable, the Swede is welcome from every standpoint of racial value—and vastly more so

than others who might be named. The country needs most of all, so far as immigration is concerned, newcomers who display the very qualities which so distinguish the Swede.

## TWO PICTURES

A woman comments with some bitterness on the fact that New York has a number of beautiful marble structures in which the bones of mastodons and the stuffed carcasses of hyenas may be luxuriantly lodged, but there is little chance of a crippled child being fitly housed or comforted. This is not wholly true. There are really only two museums in Gotham in which defunct dinosaurs may be fitly enshrined, but there are hundreds of organizations and many hospitals for those in poverty and suffering. It is doubtless true that there are homeless wanderers and many to whom anguish and want are companions, but that is no warrant for throwing rocks at the museum. That also has its definite value in advancing humanity.

## BRITISH PAPER URGES UNDERSTANDING WITH AMERICA

The Western Press of Bristol, England, in a long and serious discussion of the situation arising from the difference in the attitude of the United States and Great Britain toward the traffic in alcoholic liquors urges that "it is of the highest importance that a good understanding shall exist between the British and United States people; it is eminently desirable that we should appreciate each other's aims and pull together as far as possible." The editorial continues:

"One of the few good results of the Great War was that it swept away old prejudices and did much to unite the two peoples in a bond of sympathy. There is a danger of that better feeling being lost unless Great Britain can free itself from a suspicion of complicity in the attempt to defeat the prohibition law. We fancy there are many English people who have no sympathy with prohibition who will yet appreciate the feeling of intense irritation caused by persistent attempts to defeat the code which the United States people have adopted for their own welfare. We have previously stated that the United States executive would do well to modify the effect of the judgment of the supreme court so as to treat liquor on ships within American waters as in bond, but, on the other hand, it is highly important that our own government should do their utmost to prevent attempts being made under British auspices to defeat the laws of a friendly country. Were the positions reversed we believe British indignation would be as strong as that

aroused in America. There is a political as well as a trade aspect to this question. The failure of prohibition in America would be welcomed by certain politicians in this country, who feel that its success would stimulate the demand for a similar policy in Great Britain. That renders the problem the more difficult. We are not arguing for or against prohibition, but feel that it is of greater importance than perhaps the present government realizes that this country shall be freed from the suspicion of being accessory to a subtle and persistent attack on the national policy of the United States."

## THE MONEY SAVERS

Instead of the fresh deficit of some \$90,000,000 which our government faced at the close of the last fiscal year there is now substantial indication of a cash surplus of approximately \$200,000,000. The president and his secretary of the treasury are, indeed, reporting progress. There has been a curtailment of some \$250,000,000 from anticipated expenditures and the receipts have taken such form and volume that further reductions in the tax schedules may be confidently expected. The government is a great going concern. Since the establishment of the budget the finances of the nation have been completely overhauled. Instead of being on the open sea without a rudder or compass we are now running a charted course with all the equipment of the trained navigator at command.

## EASY MONEY

It turns out, after all, that the German Reichsbank has thus far only issued some 9,000,000,000-000 marks. But that would be quite a pile. If it were in real gold it would make a pyramid higher than the Woolworth building.

## THE BIG STUFF

The German government is reported as being about to print notes at the face value of 1,000,000 marks each. This sounds prodigious, but the money is really being printed in order that a map may buy a mess of frankfurters without being embarrassed by his load of change.

## MAY NOT SHAVE

CEUTA Morocco, June 22.—Orders have been issued by the Spanish army authorities commanding all officers and soldiers of the regular army to grow mustaches. The upper lip may be adorned with long or short hair according to the wish of the owner or his ability to cultivate it.

## BITS FOR BREAKFAST

Tom Skeyhill was great— He is a worthy Chautauqua headliner. He is a pessimist on the past but an optimist for the future. The Chautauqua crowd will like the lecture of Mrs. Thatcher this morning, the circus this afternoon and the personality and work of Miss Windus tonight.

The writer on the editorial page this morning speaks of the next time the people are asked to vote school bonds. There must be no next time, for seven to ten years. That is the contract with the people—that is the trust. The \$500,000 must be made to last, and to reach around. There must be no deviation from the program, the turning of a hair from the south to the southwest side.

Did you know that Salem can get a sugar factory? They are going to be in style in this country and there is no section of the United States where one will pay as well as right here. We can get the factory if we will hammer on the idea and stick to it everlastingly. And everlastingly in this case may be this year or next year, to utilize the crop of 1924.

A few showers now and then, and cool enough 'nights to make you sleep well, here in the Willamette valley. But no one is being killed by the heat here, as is the case in the east, where so many people are committing suicide by not coming to this land of diversity and country of opportunity.

The fad for Egyptian things has extended to horse-racing. Papyrus won the English Derby, with Pharos second.—New York Evening Post.

There are a few things more embarrassing than having your grocer drive up while you are paying cash for your gasoline.—Norristown Times.

Some political leaders remind us of the preacher who selected the Mormons to denounce because there were none in his neighborhood.—Coatesville Record.

## PICNIC ENJOYED BY THE REALTORS

Marion - Polk Association Members Go for Jaunt to Vitae Springs

Thursday evening the Marion-Polk Realtors drove out to Vitae Springs, near East Independence, where they roasted weiners, drank camp coffee made from the wonderful, health-giving spring water, and ate cake and sandwiches and salad and pie and pickles and cream and other delectable and entertaining foods.

They visited with genial E. D. Smith, proprietor of the springs, burning up most of his camp wood in token of their appreciation and then went over to the Bohrnstedt cottage, a quarter of a mile away, where they saw a marvelous sunset and a million-dollar view out across the Willamette valley. The clustering lights of five towns are visible from this one point, dotted out over the east and southwest—Independence, Monmouth, Dallas, Falls City, and one other to the northward.

The Realtors plan to make more of these excursions this year to get better acquainted with the scenic and other resources of their country, so as to be able to spread

Beautiful \$1500 Baldwin Grand piano, must be sold at once. This is the finest parlor grand on the coast. And will be sacrificed for \$1150, you make the terms, will accept your old piano as part payment. The Baldwin piano is accepted as the leading piano in the concert world. TALLMAN PIANO STORE 395 S. 12 St.

the good news to all inquirers in Marion county real estate. The organization is functioning energetically, socially and in a business way.

## RECOVERED FROM STOMACH TROUBLE

"Had stomach trouble three years and finally was in bed eight weeks with terrible cramps," writes A. L. Lyons, Dayton, Ohio. "The doctor did not help, and could hold nothing on my stomach. Tried Foley's Cathartic Tablets and now am a well man. Can eat anything." Sour stomach, headache, bad breath, biliousness and other digestive disorders quickly overcome with Foley's Cathartic Tablets. Do not grip, pain or nauseate.—Sold everywhere.—Adv.

Headquarters For Firecrackers And Fireworks. Make your selection now, while our stock is complete. Goods shipped to any point in Oregon. Ace Is the Place Masonic Temple

## THE BOYS AND GIRLS NEWSPAPER

The Biggest Little Paper in the World. Copyright, 1923, Associated Editors. Edited by John M. Miller.

Lessons Champion Swimmers Learn. PLAIN FRONT "SWAN" DIVE. Fancy Diving. (This is the sixth of a series of eight articles by Pierson L. Maxwell, a swimming expert who has taught boys and girls to swim at Municipal beaches, ocean beaches and private pools. Mr. Maxwell has been a life-guard and a racing swimmer for a number of years. He knows what he is talking about when it comes to swimming. Clip these articles and follow them if you want to become a good swimmer.)

Head Controls Body. When you wish to do the twist dives, turn your head and shoulders to the right, or left, and your body will also go to the right or left. In using a diving board, never be bashful about hitting it hard. Get a good spring out of it. To execute good dives requires time and you can only get the time if you have a good spring into the air. As you start your dive, first get on the board and come to attention before your run. Act like you owned the world and this will give you the confidence and form to do a much better dive than otherwise. It is absolutely unnecessary to take a long run from in back of the board to do a dive successfully, no matter what the dive is. Always start your dive from a run on the board, not 20 feet behind the board. Have your toes pointed, your legs together and straight, when you enter the water. (Next week: "Water stunts.")


## THE SHORT STORY, JR.

FREDDY FIREFLY. Freddy gave others a pain. Because he was terribly vain; He was proud of his light. Which he strutted each night Through farmyard and meadow and lane. Freddy Firefly had only one fault—he was vain. He was a beautiful, large firefly with a lovely, bright light. It had not been for his vain disposition, he would have been the most popular firefly on the farm. As it was, Freddy had very few friends. The sweet, cool, June dusk had just settled down over the farm when Freddy Firefly stretched himself and awoke from his nap. Like all modern young fireflies,

## Clam's Squirt-Gun Neck

When some one disturbs him an ordinary clam "shuts up" without any argument, but there is one kind of clam that doesn't believe in giving in without a fight, and he carries his own little squirt-gun to ward off enemies. He is the giant clam, found on the shores of portions of the Puget Sound in Washington, where he is called the "goyduck." This giant clam is about ten times as big as the ordinary clam and looks the same, except at one end there is a "neck" about two and one-half feet long and two inches in diameter. This is his squirt-gun. He buries himself deep in the sand, under shallow water, leaving only the tip of his neck above the sand so he can breathe and catch bits of food. When the tide goes out he fills his neck with water, loading his "gun" for protection. When he feels any pressure on the sand he shoots out a stream of water that surprises his disturber and gives the clam time to draw in his neck. The only way hunters can catch him is to blow over the tip of his neck before they have walked too close to it and then push a long, sharp, willow-stick quickly down his neck so he cannot pull it out. Then they must dig to get him. Goyduck hunting is great sport, and hunters think themselves lucky to catch him, for he makes delicious chowder. Height of Perfection. Fond Mammas: "Leroy, in your teacher satisfied with you?" Leroy: "She must be. She said today that if all the pupils were like me she'd resign. That shows I know enough."

### Fly Old Glory On INDEPENDENCE DAY



Long May It Wave!

A FLAG IN EVERY HOME. Every red-blooded American family will want a flag this spring—the big beautiful National Emblem—to fly not only on The Fourth of July—but on numerous other patriotic celebrations held during the year. No worn out faded flags for us.

FLY A CLEAN, FRESH FLAG EVERY DAY! These flags are made up in first class manner and the workmanship is guaranteed. Each flag has sewed stripes, printed unions, and is weather proof and sun proof. Fitted with heavy canvas heading and grommets. The white stripes are unbleached cotton bunting. Size 3x5 feet.

How to Get One of These Flags HERE'S HOW This Splendid Flag For One Coupon and 98 Cents.

Fill out the coupon below and hand in at our office or mail to us and secure this splendid 3x5-foot flag.

Flag Coupon This coupon and 98 cents when handed in or mailed to The Statesman Office, 215 South Commercial Street, Salem, Oregon, entitles bearer to the large 3x5 flag as advertised. If flag is to be mailed add 10 cents to cover cost of mailing—also be sure to write name and address plainly.

FUTURE DATES June 28 to 29—Chautauqua at Dallas. June 29 to 30—Chautauqua at Dallas. July 1, Wednesday—Chautauqua at Dallas. July 2 to 3—Chautauqua at Dallas.