

The Oregon Statesman

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THE OREGON ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

The Oregon economic conference—the first one held in the United States—

Which concluded its sessions at the Oregon Agricultural College yesterday, will prove the beginning of a movement resulting in great good to this state, if its sound conclusions are followed up with action, and with further discussion, and further sifting and action, with team-work on the part of the men on the land joined with that of the men in the cities.

Not a great deal that is absolutely new to the readers of the Oregon pages of The Statesman of the past five years will be found in the data and the conclusions drawn from that data.

The big thing of the conference was the getting of the big men of the cities and the leaders among the men on the land together with their feet under the same table, and all the cards face up on the table.

For both sides and all sides have their problems and their rights and wrongs.

There is a great deal to be said, which will be said from time to time in these columns, mostly in commendation, concerning the conclusions.

And some things will need explanation and explanation, and even opposition, as applied to the conditions in the immediate Salem district.

Take one thing: The conclusion as to flax is that fiber flax growing in the Willamette valley ought to be encouraged, as factories are developed to work up the raw materials. So far so good. Also, the conclusion is that perhaps flax growing for the seed may be successfully carried on in some sections of Oregon, and that there should be experiments along this line.

Perhaps so, as to some eastern Oregon sections; though the writer does not know any such.

But not as to the western part of Oregon; not as to the Willamette valley. Not as to the Salem district. Flax growing for the seed only would not be a good thing for our Salem district farmers. It would not pay. But when the growing of flax for the fiber is fully developed here, as it will surely be in time, and the writer believes soon, the matter of furnishing home grown flax seed to our linseed oil mills will be taken care of—as a by-product.

We will have a lot of flax seed above the amount that will be needed for sowing more flax and for the wholesale drug trade and other purposes. This will go to the linseed oil mills.

Right now, the thing to do is to get the factories—to keep on getting them, till we produce \$100,000,000 annually of flax products; till we produce half as much with this one crop as the raw material basis as is now received for all the products of the soil in Oregon. It can be done. The time is ripe for it. The development ought to take place within a few years.

THE MEXICAN SITUATION

Editor Statesman:

Having a near acquaintance at my elbow, who has lived for fifteen years in Mexico, and being personally acquainted with the personality of the present ruling power of Mexico, he feels sure that our government is making the fatal mistake, as did Woodrow Wilson, by siding with Carranza.

Since the rebellion is directed, not so much against Oberon, as at his General Calles, whom Oberon fears, said general being hated and feared for his bad qualities by the great majority of the Mexican populace.

Consequently the rebellion may gain great strength, and the Oberon government may lose out; and again engendering great enmity against Americans.

A wiser policy would be to leave them alone, until it was fought out amongst themselves. A SUBSCRIBER. Salem, Ore., Jan. 26, 1924.

AN OBJECT LESSON

The subject of this article is misleading. It is not an object lesson but it ought to be. The democrats have a fine opportunity to make a record before the country for economy. They are not making it.

Here is an object lesson for them. They dug up a lot of stuff on Fall; the republicans are insisting on going to the bottom of it and the president is insisting upon prosecution if necessary.

Here is another object lesson. The republicans are trying hard to reduce government expenses; the democrats are moving heaven and earth to keep the expenses up. They are afraid the republicans will get a little credit.

Another object lesson is in the leasing of lands for oil purposes. This should not be a partisan question.

This is a matter where partisanship should end. It should be the desire of every upright citizen, republican and democrat, that the leasing of the nation's valuable oil reserves shall be probed to the bottom and into every ramifications. If Secretary Fall betrayed President Harding and was shamefully recreant to the high trust reposed in him by the government, he should be brought to a severe accounting.

It is regrettable, however, that the opposition party, bent on playing politics for the approaching presidential campaign, rejected the offer of republicans of the house ways and means committee to compromise and work out a nonpartisan tax reform bill. Here the minority runs true to form and is the party of opposition and obstruction.

An occasion for rejoicing would have been presented if the dem-

ocratic and republican leaders had united in good faith and spirit upon a tax reform measure that they could jointly recommend to the country. Strategically and politically speaking, the democrats would have had the better of such an agreement, for the republicans are now on sounder ground, and the effect of captious opposition will be discrediting and weakening to the democrats in the approaching campaign.

A REVIVAL

Oregon has gone backwards in mining but there are multiplying evidences that the business is growing better. In the mountains of Oregon there is more wealth than in Alaska, the cost of excavation considered. The mining activity means that Oregon will resume the production of wealth on a large scale.

There is little doubt that some will become mines and richly repay the expenditure necessary to bring them to productiveness. Those which fail will not be mourned—the west has no time for that, and there are too many fresh opportunities at hand. The mines which become producers will but add to the long list of successes for which this region is noted. The reward of those who joined in the development is deserved.

The spirit exemplified in the mining history of the northwest is that of rugged determination to overcome obstacles which occasionally appear baffling. The story of each of our great mines can not be told without frequent reference to the struggles of men and women who were ready to undergo every hardship rather than give up. Whether the prospect was a success or a failure they faced the outcome placidly.

BEING THRIFTY

There are many ways of being thrifty that the small saver can use to advantage. Building and loan stock offers an unusually attractive investment.

There is a new appreciation of insurance also which has broadened the field so that the term no longer applies especially to life insurance. Citizens are subscribing to policies which protect them in case of loss through theft, ill health, accident, and yet others are building up reserves against the day when no longer shall they be able to take an active part in the workaday world. The person who regularly visits the dentist is practicing the lessons of insurance.

Increase in bank accounts, a notable development in American life during the last five years, reveals how the preaching of thrift has influenced the people. Thrift is only insurance for it urges economy today that one may be prepared for whatever may befall in a financial way tomorrow.

THE BURNS CLUB

The Oregon Statesman is glad to know that for thirty years a Burns club has been maintained in Salem and has had annual meetings. Burns was born January 25, 1759, and every January 25 the Scotch people come together to honor Burns and to have a most delightful time. Burns died when thirty-seven years old, but he was a real poet and expressed himself so wonderfully that he is equally dear to succeeding generations.

The plan of this organization is to create a friendship by bringing those of one nationality in touch with each other. Every nation should pick out some outstanding citizen and celebrate his birthday as a matter of social usage and a better understanding between men.

THE ADMINISTRATION PLAN

President Coolidge does not regard it as a part of his duties to work out the details of the wheat moving plan. He has given his adherence to the general proposition and he is very wisely leaving it to others to work out the details.

Wheat farmers are the ones that need help now. They are now in the only way they have ever had of getting such help. It is also possible to guard against the future.

NOT ENOUGH

A special committee in congress has lopped off \$103,000,000 in public expenses. That will do as a starter, but it will never be accepted as a job. We have gone so wild on expenses that we must not be satisfied with anything except cutting to the bone. Taxes are too hard to pay for us to palliate them. There is just one thing to do in taxation and that is to hew straight to the line letting the chips fall where they may.

FALL IS SICK

Dispatches say that Mr. Fall is sick. He certainly has had enough happen to him lately to at least interfere with the success of his digestion. Fall has been unmasked and is now revealed as the betrayer of public trust. However, this is not surprising to the people of New Mexico. We spent three months there two years ago and failed to find any man who defended Fall. Universally they pronounced him a crook.

THE OLD STORY

It was Wilson who talked about open covenants, openly arrived at and became the most secretive president in the history of the country. The new labor premier of England has announced that there will be no secret diplomacy, but no one will believe him. For centuries England has never failed to keep a marked deck of cards up its sleeve. No matter what the subject was, England was always trying to put across a special deal.

A BAD COMBINATION

A man named Miller is under arrest in Portland for running over a woman with an automobile and killing her. Everything is against the man. We say everything, and hereby submit the proof. He had an empty whiskey flask in the car and was riding with another man's wife. No more evidence is needed to convict him.

There are just two kinds of farmers who have insisted upon being single crop men, the wheat and the cotton farmers. Neither section of the country has made the progress that should be made.

We notice asparagus is on the market and rhubarb is coming along. It is mighty hard to tell in this country, where fall leaves off and spring begins.

THE CLOSER WALK

(Copyrighted 1924 by San Jose Mercury)

"Oh, for a closer walk with God!" Such is the spontaneous aspiration of every truly religious heart. Whether one be a Catholic, a Protestant, a Unitarian or a Jew, whether he be a believer in the inerrancy of the Old Testament or in evolution, does not so much matter. For religion does not consist of intellectual conceptions or of outward form or formula, of ceremonies or observances. A believer in any of these things, a punctilious observer of all the requirements of any sect or denomination may be as far from real religion as one who never darkens a church door or kneels at any altar. For religion is a matter of the inner life, of the heart, of the very soul of man. Some are coming to understand this and are seeing that there is a vast difference between sectarianism, ecclesiasticism, or church membership and religion.

Both the Old and the New Testament make this perfectly clear. The Prophet Isaiah in the first chapter of his prophecy declares in effect all these outward things may become "an abomination" unto God who is satisfied with nothing less than a changed, an upright and a pure life. "Wash you," He commands, "make you clean; cease to do evil; learn to do well," while Christ has no unrelenting condemnation for any class except the hypocritical, who profess but do not live; who cry Lord, Lord, but who do not do the will of God; who claim to be His followers but do not manifest His life or spirit. Religion must have its source deeper than the lips, higher than any selfish impulses or the cold and unsympathetic intellect. It is the conscious activity of the human spirit longing and striving for harmony and fellowship with the Great Spirit of the universe.

No wonder that Jesus declared to Nicodemus, "Marvel not that I said unto thee, ye must be born again!" How shall one be able to keep the first, the greatest commandment, to love God with all his heart, mind, soul and strength, when his thought, time, effort and affection are all absorbed with the things of the flesh and the earth? One can not love God until he has developed a love for the righteousness, truth and life of God. Love requires no force of the will to cause it to flow; it needs no spur or urging outside its own blessed spontaneous promptings. The lover does not reason himself into love for the dear object of his affections. He loves her in spite of himself, because to him she is lovable, because she is the embodiment of all that is good and beautiful. Cultivate a love of all that is pure, honest, true, righteous, unselfish and holy and it will be no effort to love God who is the perfect embodiment of all these beautiful and holy attributes.

The changed life which Jesus demanded of Nicodemus and which He demands of every man who would be His follower is no hysteria of emotionalism, no legerdemain of self-deception, no self-adulation of an exaggerated ego. It is nothing less than a change in the fleshy propensities, the sinful desires and the sordid ambitions of the ordinary, worldly life for the holy, elevating, soul-growing and soul-satisfying desires, ambitions and realities of the quickened spirit of man.

How shall we reach this changed, this elevated, this most blessed state of life? The New Testament makes the way so plain that "a wayfaring man," who desires to be a Christian, "though a fool, need not err therein." We are to resist the promptings of our baser selves in order that the better angels of our natures may assert themselves. We are to overcome the Satan within us in order that the Christ may arise. Not the mythical Satan outside of us, he with the horns, the cloven hoofs, and forked tongue, but the Satan of our own natures, the satanic elements and propensities in us—duplicity, hatred, envy, sordid selfishness, cruelty, injustice, dishonesty, impurity, anger, unrighteousness—we all know what they are. Having done our honest part to overthrow these things in our natures, we shall not need to prompt God or Christ to do theirs, nor fear that they will fail us.

Where to begin this effort? Begin by engaging in a death grapple with self. Be sure that the refreshing springs of the spirit have not their sources in selfishness. Out of this flow nearly all the brood of ills that have cursed humanity. On the other hand, there is nothing that will stimulate and strengthen the growth of the better elements in us more than loving and unselfish thoughts of and deeds toward others.

Moreover such unselfishness brings an immediate and precious reward. One who is counted a religious authority says: "Whenever we do an act of kindly service for another, forgetful of and with no thought of self or gain, many times it does us more good than the one for whom we do it. Our life is broadened, ennobled, expanded, lifted out of and above the dwarfed and stunted of the commonplace. We find our own lives in losing them in the larger human service." This is expressing in words that may easier reach our undeveloped human understanding the same truth that Jesus is recorded as expressing. "He that seeketh his life shall lose it and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it."

"O Master, let me walk with Thee In lowly paths of service free; Tell me Thy secret, help me bear The strain of toil, the fret of care.

"Help me the slow of heart to move By some clear, winning word of love; Teach me the wayward feet to stay, And guide them in the homeward way.

"Teach me Thy patience; still with Thee In closer, dearer company, In work that keeps faith sweet and strong, In trust that triumphs over wrong.

"In hope that sends a shining ray Far down the future's broadening way; In peace that only Thou canst give, With Thee, O Master, let me live."

BITS FOR BREAKFAST

What shall its name be— Referring to the new junior high school?

The Salem Chamber of Commerce has this item in its current bulletin: "Next week you will be asked to suggest a name for the new junior high school to be erected on North Capitol street. It will be on the Pacific highway and will be seen by about 8000 people, more or less, every day in the summer time. It is estimated that 200 cars a day will pass the school during the gasoline season."

The chairman of the Democratic national committee thinks he has found an issue. It is to be a nudging issue. But it can be over done. Ask Jimmy Cox, who thought he was running for the presidency on that issue the last time.

Some one suggests: "The Democrats would have more power if they controlled the house, but they wouldn't have nearly as much fun."

A man who used to work for Daniel Webster on the old Massachusetts farm which that statesman owned in his retiring years is just dead at the age of 106 years. He said that life was hardly worth living any more. Prohibition made him anxious to leave. He used to be able to get his ration of good liquor from the times of Webster until the last few months, but the stuff they put over now isn't fit for a white man and so he shook his head and passed out. He said that his first century was fine, but the second one didn't seem to pan out just right. He still missed Daniel Webster. For that matter, congress seems to be still missing him.

A man isn't necessarily progressive because he wishes to try every fool scheme anybody suggests.

Things To Do

"I wanta see Tennessee," giggled an impertinent boy in the

front row. The contestants gathered in the anteroom behind the stage smiled, and looked at the tall girl in the plain white dress. "It isn't really your name, is it?" asked the little one in curls and pink ruffles. Tennessee nodded without smiling. In her throat was a lump she could scarcely swallow past.

"I could stand to enter the music contest in a last year's dress that's too tight at the waist and short in the sleeves, but I can't bear to have everybody laugh at that awful name on the program!" was her bitter thought. She glanced down the list of competitors—Marjorie and Patricia—such pretty names—Sarah Elizabeth—dignified and fashionable. And right in the middle glared out Tennessee. It sounded like a racehorse!

Soon word came that the woman who was offering the scholarship, a year's instruction in lessons, had arrived. The crowd hushed and settled down to hear Marjorie, with the ruffled gown and great self-confidence, play the first number. Her appearance on the stage was greeted with applause. Though the playing was

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The Biggest Little Paper in the World

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TENNESSEE'S SPECIAL PRIZE

poor, she was clapped for in the end because of the curls and ruffles and the smile.

One by one the others gave their numbers. Then it was Tennessee's turn. When she walked out, a little awkwardly, she felt a whisper run through the house, and there were faint smiles of amusement as they glanced at the name. She was conscious of her tight frock and the stares. Somehow she got through, but when she left, she realized she had not done her best. To the others, winning the contest would be merely an honor; to her it meant continuing with music lessons.

After the final number, there was the awful period of waiting while the lady made her decision. Then the chairman announced that Sarah Elizabeth had been awarded the prize. Amid the clamor of congratulations that followed in the room behind the stage, the instructor's voice called: "Someone here wants to see Tennessee."

"Didn't they all see me, and stare and laugh?" crooned the poor girl, following the woman to the door.

Outside was the giver of the scholarship. She smiled at Tennessee. "I realize your disadvantage in playing today," she said. "You are the first person I have ever met who has my name. I remember my self-consciousness when I was younger over that name, Tennessee. I am going to offer another scholarship—a very special one—for my namesake."

Answer to today's riddle: The difference between an elephant and a germ is that the elephant carries a trunk and the germ carries the grip.

THE FUN BOX

HE PASSED

A Wall Street broker, desiring 11 clerks, asked the following question on an examination: "Who formed the first company?"

A bright youth, a bit puzzled, but not to be floored, wrote: "Noah successfully floated a company while the rest of the world was in liquidation." His application was accepted.

At Last, A Hero

She: What a pity it is that handsome men are always conceited! He: "Not always, little girl, I am not."

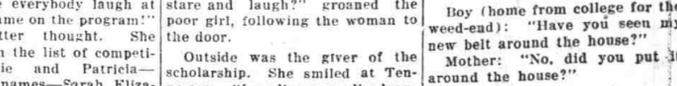
Randy Riddle Says—

Why is it that the sky is so much cleaner in the city than in the country? What is the difference between an elephant and a germ?

Careless of Him

Boy (home from college for the weed-eat): "Have you seen my new belt around the house?" Mother: "No, did you put it around the house?"

Answer to today's riddle: The city sky is much cleaner because there they have sky scrapers.



ter Cathryn leave today for the Hawaiian islands. A cheese factory is to be established in the Monitor community in the near future.

SILVERTON NEWS

SILVERTON, Ore., Jan. 26.—(Special to The Statesman.)—Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Hobart, who are now living near Portland, are announcing the arrival of a son, born January 22. Mr. and Mrs. Hobart, who are both graduates of the Oregon Agricultural college, lived at Silvertown for several months, and moved to their present location last fall. Mr. Hobart is a son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Hobart of Silvertown.

Mr. and Mrs. John Zahler leave today for Amity, where Mr. Zahler has accepted a position as cheese maker. Mr. Zahler was formerly cheese maker at the Evergreen cheese factory.

Victor Madsen, a junior at Oregon Agricultural college, is spending the week-end with his parents at Silvertown.

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Anderson, who have been spending considerable time in Norway, have notified Silvertown friends that they will be at home about February 1.

D. J. Murphy, a long-time employee of the Stiff Furniture company of Silvertown, but more recently associated with the Murphy & Starr Hardware company, has sold his Silvertown interests and together with James Bailey of Salem will enter the hardware business at Oregon City.

Rev. Sigurd Lindseth of St. John's congregation, leaves Sunday night to attend a pastors' conference at Chinook, Wash. Rev. Mr. Lindseth will be gone three days.

Miss Winona Palmer entertained a few friends at her home on North Water street Thursday evening.

Miss Mae Service is spending a few days visiting friends at Portland.

Lucile Thomas, the 4-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Thomas, who live on Paradise road, is ill.

Mrs. M. C. Woodward and daughter

DEMOCRATS CAPATALIZE TEAPOT DOME SCANDAL (Continued from page 1)

tion. The department of justice, which a United States senator alleges to be under wide suspicion, has made no move to protect or defend the public interests so far as they were threatened or affected by these scandals.

Coolidge Blamed "During most of this administration, Mr. Coolidge was vice president of the United States and sat as an unofficial member of the president's cabinet. For nearly six months he has been president of the United States. During all this time he has uttered no word of condemnation of any of these scandals, nor a word of warning against those impending nor against the policy pursued by the Republican reactionaries who dominate the administration.

"It was not until yesterday when the testimony concerning the alleged loans to Fall was made public, that he was aroused from his lethargy to make any statement concerning the Teapot Dome scandal and then only to say that he is reluctant to believe that anyone has been guilty of criminal intent, but that if evidence of criminality is shown, the administration will take action to punish the guilty and bring about the annulment of the lease, which, of course, would be a mere matter of routine. Until the testimony referred to was given, he has been as blind apparently as Secretary of the Navy Denby professed to be when he testified in the Teapot Dome scandal. Secretary Denby, who signed the naval oil leases, is still in President Coolidge's cabinet, and Theodore Roosevelt, who testified he approved the leases, is still Mr. Denby's assistant. Dr. Work, responsible for the reclamation service scandal, is still secretary of the interior. Others less offensive, but no less discredited, continue to occupy positions of honor and trust."

January 28, Monday—Ex-service men of Marion-Polk counties guests of 40 & 8 McCormack hall, Salem. February 12, Tuesday—Annual Ladies night, Ikwania club. February 16, Saturday—Hotel men of Oregon to meet in Salem. March 13, 14 and 15—State Inter-scholastic basketball tournament, Willamette gymnasium. March 14 and 15, Friday and Saturday—Marion county Sunday school branch of religious education meets at Stayton. April 19, Saturday—Dedication of statue "The Circuit Rider," in state house grounds. May 16, Friday—Primary election in Oregon. June 10, Tuesday—Republican national convention meets in Cleveland. June 24, Tuesday—Democratic national convention meets in New York.

TYPICAL FLOOD SCENE IN FRANCE.



Thousands of workers have been thrown out of employment in Paris due to the rising of the River Seine, which is one of the many floods that occur in France. In the present condition residents are unable to leave their homes without the aid of boats. A repetition of the disaster of 1919 is feared. Photo shows a typical flood scene in France.

Cap'n Zyb

OLD BOTTLE WAR

If you happen to know of an old dump or trash pile which you can use, here is a way to have a lot of fun. Set up a bunch of old bottles in rows and then fire at



them with rocks at a distance of 50 feet or more. Have different sorts of bottles count a different number of points and fire in turn. The first boy making a hundred points, because of the bottles he has smashed, wins the game.

Never play this game where the rocks or broken glass are liable to cause any one any convenience or trouble.

—CAP'N ZYB.

FUTURE DATES