

# The Oregon Statesman

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**BEGIN THE DAY RIGHT:**—Cause me to hear thy loving kindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee. Psalm 143:8.

## THE HOME MERCHANT AND THE BELL RINGER

The reader may say in his haste that it is nobody's business if a housewife "gets stung" by a house to house canvasser—

But a little reflection will bring an opposite conclusion. It would certainly be against the public interest if this were a world in which it were easy for the counterfeiter to pass off his near imitations for real money—

And the two performances are very much alike.

Even everyday citizens who know but little of the complicated structure of our myriad laws have come to know the phrase, "Caveat emptor," or "Let the buyer beware." There are many cases in which the purchaser is presumed to be able to make a good bargain for himself and it is presumably no one's business if he doesn't. He must look to himself, not to the authorities, to remedy the situation.

A little spirit of adventure is left in most people; they "like to take a chance." Sometimes this chance seems to pop up at their very doorsteps. Some Mysterious Stranger calling them by name and coming directly from the house of their most intimate friend confides in a whisper that he or she has in his possession just a remnant of some lace, which has paid no duty. It is real—will Madame be good enough to judge? Madame looks. Madame is a judge of real lace—that is such a relief in these degenerate days when so few really can judge such things; or is it, that Madame does not recognize this as true lace? Alas the days are not what they used to be! And if the Mysterious One can talk long enough there will be a sale.

If thereafter, Madame finds that she might have bought the same thing down town of her own merchant for a lesser price—she may shrug her shoulders. Likely she doesn't say much about it. Thus are laces and rugs which never saw the light any nearer the dreamy old East than Hoboken, dumped on the trustful souls of our cities and towns and country.

The last few years have been marked by lower merchandising costs in the drug stores of the country, through the operations of the vast chain stores and the membership of individual stores in big buying organizations—

Yet, let the vendor of some magical cream come along with his patter and you shall see the housewife part with a good dollar bill for an article her druggist would be ashamed to sell for that price. Nor would he allow himself or his clerks to make such preposterous representations about it.

The house to house canvasser never comes back—you may have noticed that.

It is somebody's business to see that you do not get stung by house to house canvassers—and that somebody is the buyer for the household. A good house-wife knows that this kind of thing is hokum; that it is meant to deceive; that if persisted in and successful it would destroy her own home; for, without the local merchant the value of her property, and the living that her husband makes would be disrupted.

Money given to peddlers never returns—but, kept as a part of the circle of exchange here in Salem it would travel its way and then in some fashion return to the buyer. You will find if you engage in conversation with any reputable merchant that he is more anxious than you are to see that you do not waste your money. He is interested always in seeing that you get your money's worth.

There is being published in The Statesman of this morning the first of a series of full page advertisements, to appear each Sunday, in order to further a general campaign against the bell ringers who encroach upon the field of the home merchant.

This is an appeal that is deserving of careful attention. It would be a sorry town that depended upon the bell ringers to pay the taxes, support the various institutions looking to the city's upbuilding and welfare, and give employment to labor in a thousand different ways—

Then why, at any time, encourage a bell ringer, when he offers something that you may secure from your home people?

## COMMENDABLE ACTION

The recent action of the T. A. society of the Salem high school in dissolving its organization in conformity to the recent resolution of the school board barring secret societies from the schools is commendable. Other similar organizations should do likewise in conformity with the laws of the state and the action of the board whose members are primarily the sponsors for the schools.

Observance of the laws of the state is the first duty of every citizen of the state and this includes school boys and girls as well as grown-up folks. That the law which denies the right of secret organizations in the high schools of the state has been ignored is regrettable and recognition of the board's action as simply compliance with the law is the only reasonable and proper procedure.

The law denying the right of existence of secret organizations in public schools was sought and passed by those who desired the best in social, educational progress of school boys and girls. And it was not passed until results from these organizations made the demand imperative.

Faith in boys and girls of our high schools is still genuine; and the desire for them the highest standard of efficient progress in their educational efforts and experiences is

the motive for the recent rule. And the members of the organizations here referred to well merit the efforts and sacrifices made in their behalf by those who support and sponsor the schools, only by cooperation with the board of education in the conduct of the schools.

## CARE OF FARM MACHINERY

At this time of the year when farm machinery for the most part is laid aside thought should be given to its care until its use next season. Investigations of the depreciation of farm machines show startling results in regard to exposure of them to the elements. These investigations show that machines depreciate twice as quickly when left uncovered out in the weather as when covered or cared for inside. For example let us take a farm which requires \$600 worth of machinery to properly equip it. In fact the average Western Oregon farm requires about this outlay in farm machinery.

If these machines are properly housed they will depreciate approximately \$48 in value each year, but if they are not carefully used and housed the depreciation is at least \$96 a year and in some cases much more. It is evident that it pays well to house machinery and that the housing will be more than paid for within a short time by saving in depreciation.

But there are other conditions which urge the housing of machines. Should the farmer desire to sell them at any time, he will obtain a much higher price if they bear evidence of careful housing than he will if they are weather-beaten in appearance. Again when machines are exposed for a long time to the weather during the idle season much more time and effort is usually required to get them to working properly than would be required had they been housed, on account of the rust and general depreciation. And this time at the harvest season is worth more to the farmer than that of any period of the year.

It is desirable to keep the machines well painted. Not only is this wise from the standpoint of better appearance but for protection from the weather when the machine is not in use. Paint in fact adds very greatly to the length of life of machinery. An application of some anti-rust substance is also good for machinery and this may be obtained at nominal cost. On the basis of "money saved is money earned," the proper housing and care of machinery is one of the farmer's opportunities to add to his bank account.

## OATH OF OFFICE AND THE BIBLE

The custom of pressing a scriptural verse to the lips as a part of the oath of office ceremony in the inauguration of our presidents was introduced by Washington, the first president of the United States, and has been adhered to by all the presidents since his time.

Grover Cleveland was evidently an admirer of the Psalms, for in his first inauguration he selected Psalm 112:5, 6 and 7; and in his second inauguration he chose Psalm 113:4 and Psalm 91:15.

### First Inauguration

"A good man showeth favor, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion.

"Surely he will not be moved forever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.

"He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord.

### Second Inauguration

"The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens.

"He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him."

William McKinley selected Second Chronicles 1:10 and Proverbs 16:20:

"Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, that is so great?

"He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whose trusteth in the Lord, happy is he."

Theodore Roosevelt chose his passage of Scriptures from James 1:22, 23, which reads:

"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

"For if any man be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass."

Warren G. Harding requested that he be sworn in on the same Bible used by George Washington. When he had concluded taking the oath, he reverently pressed to his lips the Bible, opened at Micah 6:8. He then delivered his inaugural address, and in closing said: "I have taken the solemn oath of office on that passage of Holy Writ wherein it is asked:

"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good: and what does the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" and then added: "This I plight to God and country."

## Bits For Breakfast

School days, beginning tomorrow.

State fair a week from tomorrow, and prospects are for the greatest fair ever.

North Salem is being literally made over, through the paving program that is being carried on.

Time was, when North Salem was a sleepy part of town. But that time is long past.

In the early days of Salem's history a man who owned some lots in North Salem advertised them for sale; "or will trade for anything but other North Salem lots." Afterwards, this man ran for office, and lost the North Salem vote.

You must be sure to see the Humphrey dispenser at work at the state fair, on loganberry juice.

You will conclude that if enough of these devices could be put to work the loganberry industry would be on the map permanently, in large capital letters.

The loganberry growers, if they were organized 100 per cent strong, could themselves put over a scheme to have installed over

the country great numbers of the device.

A Kansas town has nicknamed a girl "Mayonaise." She is always dressing.

Foreign cartoons depicting Uncle Sam as a hard taskmaster are not to be wondered at. You cannot change the leadership of the world in 10 years and have complete satisfaction everywhere.

What makes the round-the-globe radio messages possible? Scientists in England now say it is because of the existence of a band of rarified air containing a high percentage of helium gas surrounding the earth at a height of between 60 and 100 miles.

This man's all fixed! Sam R. Kimball, aged rancher living near Los Angeles, is reported to have given an advance order to a local undertaker for a \$1200 steel coffin—equipped with a radio receiving set. Convinced that the soul lingers near the body until the day of judgment, Kimball wants to be able to "hear what is going on in the world" after he dies.

What they ought to do is put signs where you can park instead of where you can't.

## FARMERS GET DAMAGES

PRESCOTT, Ariz., Sept. 19.—(By Associated Press.)—Farmers who sued the United Verde Extension Mining company and the United Verde Copper Mining company

here for \$62,000 damages alleged to have been caused to the crops by smoke from the smelters, tonight were awarded a verdict for \$4,997.55 against each of the companies by a jury in federal court.

## LEGATE IS NAMED

TOKYO, Sept. 20.—(By Associated Press.)—Baron Keishiro Matsui has been chosen as ambassador to Great Britain.

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