

THE OREGON STATESMAN

Issued Daily Except Monday by
THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY
 215 South Commercial Street, Salem, Oregon

MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
 The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper and also the local news published herein.

BUSINESS OFFICES:
 G. E. Bell, 222-223 Security Bldg., Portland, Ore. Telephone Broadway 9240.
 Thomas F. Clark Co., New York, 128-136 W. 31st St.; Chicago, Marquette Bldg.
 Doty & Steyes, Inc., California representatives, Sharon Bldg., San Francisco; Chamber of Commerce Bldg., Los Angeles.

TELEPHONES:
 Business Office 23 or 583 Job Department 583
 Society Editor 106 News Dept. 23 or 106 Circulation Office 583
 Entered at the Post Office in Salem, Oregon, as second-class matter



May 20, 1927

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.—Proverbs 3:12-13.

OREGON THE PIONEER

Oregon is the pioneer state in sterilization of the feeble minded and unfit; and Dr. J. N. Smith, superintendent of our state institution for the feeble minded, is a world authority in this field—

But until May 2 the supreme court of the United States had not passed upon the question of the right of a state to so protect itself against a vitiated blood stream.

The case was that of a woman in the Virginia institution for the feeble minded. She is unmarried, but is the mother of a feeble minded child, and her mother, also feeble minded, is an inmate of the same institution.

The Virginia law on the subject recites that "the health of the patient and the welfare of society may be promoted in certain cases by the sterilization of mental defectives under careful safeguard . . . that the commonwealth is supporting in various institutions many defectives who, if now discharged, would become a menace, but who if sterilized might be discharged with benefit to themselves and society"—

And in the supreme court decision just made, Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, who wrote it, maintains that society has the right to require that the mentally weak shall not bring children into the world who will themselves be feeble minded and a burden to the state, either through crime or dependence.

"Three generations of imbeciles are enough," summed up Justice Holmes in his written opinion of the court. Only Associate Justice Butler dissented from the majority ruling of the court, and he filed no written opinion.

There are now fifteen states which authorize this operation. The World Almanac places the present number of feeble minded persons in institutions in the United States at 39.3 per 100,000 of total population, as against 22.5 in 1910. The tide has been rising—

Whereas with a reasonably general and rigid enforcement of sterilization laws throughout the United States, according to the Oregon practice, the whole nation would be pretty well rid of the worst types of mental weaklings within the next two generations.

It is a great wonder that this enlightened nation has not

begun this measure of protection long before.

No doubt all states will ere long follow Oregon's lead, which is in line with the rules of common sense, now that Justice Holmes has put the seal of legal approval to the practice—

And there is no other one thing that will prevent more misery and crime and degradation in this country; no other one thing that will so lift up the line of average decency and honesty and intelligence.

EDISON 159 YEARS OLD?

On the basis of an eight hour day, Hugh Weir, in an article for a recent issue of Success Magazine, decides that Thomas Alva Edison is 159 years old. By the calendar he registers in his 80th year. Mr. Weir learned that Edison worked 18 hours a day, six and sometimes seven days a week the first 50 years. His inventive work began at 22. The average man, working 8 hours a day would have to live 147 years to put in the same number of working hours. During the last six years Edison has been taking things easier—working only 16 hours a day, which would add another 12 years to the working age of the average man.

Edison associates figured for Mr. Weir the contribution made by Edison to the industrial world. In America alone the industries founded on Edison inventions involve 18,750 million dollars, a force of 935,000 men and an annual payroll of 1,615 million dollars. Of the industries electric railways lead in capitalization with 6,000 million dollars, light and power systems second with 2,000 millions, telephones 1,500 millions and motion pictures 1,000 millions. In annual payroll motion pictures lead the dozen industries.

The miles of surfaced roads and highways in the Pacific coast states are given as follows: California 18,002 miles; Washington, 17,271; Oregon 10,754. It will be observed that the state of Washington has nearly as many miles of surfaced roads as California, a much larger and wealthier state. Oregon, a late comer in the field, has lately made the greatest progress of all the states in this country in this respect; especially marked on account of the average sparse population of this state, and low value of property in proportion to the mileage covered.

"There is one enterprise in which the automobile has no chance whatsoever of succeeding the horse and that is in the circus business," remarked a man who saw the circus in Salem Wednesday.

Speaking of standing armies and great navies as peace preservers, perhaps you have not observed that Germany, without an army or navy, isn't being jumped on by anybody.

Bits For Breakfast

Welcome the plumbers—
 They are the harbingers of civilization.
 The comforts of life would be smaller to an extent we seldom ponder without the plumbers.
 When you ring central in Salem, do you realize how many hello

girls are at your beck and call? There are 72 of them—
 And a more faithful bunch of young ladies you will not find anywhere. They come from homes in all sections of the city; they represent a cross section of the good people of this city. And they will average up very well in all respects with any other 72 young ladies in Salem.
 So much for the hello girls who

serve you and probably know your voice, kindly or harsh or fault finding, though you do not know them.

Don't worry about the rain. If you had the sorting of the weather you would probably make a worse hunkle of it.

Dope leads thousands astray. This is especially true of baseball dope.

The larger a man's salary, the earlier he can knock off in the afternoon.

An exchange inquires, "why do people write crazy songs when the water is warm enough for them to drown themselves?"

AID PROMISED TOWN STRICKEN BY BLAST

(Continued from page 1.)

possible the rebuilding of the school. The village itself is unable to rebuild the school. Governor Green announced funds would be taken from the state's coffers for the purpose, if voluntary aid of Michigan's citizenry proved insufficient.

"It is hardly possible," the governor said, "to imagine a more terrible catastrophe than yesterday's at Bath."

Will Aid Burials
 He followed his proclamation with announcement that he personally would defray funeral expenses for those of the victims whose families were unable to do

so. The governor was on the scene of the blast yesterday and saw the tragedy in all its horror. Bath tonight remembered that today was to have been the date of the annual school picnic. Night-fall saw not happy groups of children returning from their play, but nearly a score of homes observing the hush of death with funeral wreaths on the floor. Here and there on a street corner stood groups of two or three, discussing in a low breath what might have been and what is.

Picnic Was Planned
 Kehoe's part in the tragedy was brought more vividly to mind by Miss Bernice Sterling, teacher of the first grade.

Early Wednesday morning she said, she called Kehoe by telephone and asked concerning arrangements for the use of a plot on his farm for the picnic site.

"When are you going to have the picnic?" Kehoe countered. "Thursday," Miss Sterling replied.

"Well, if you're going to have a picnic, you'd better have it right away," was the treasurer's rejoinder as he ended the conversation.

Less than two hours later explosions rocked the school building.

Wife Murdered
 The fate of Kehoe's wife, recently returned from a Lansing hospital, was cleared up.

Royce Cole, a Saginaw county deputy sheriff, searching through the ruins of the Kehoe farm house

and outbuildings, found portions of the woman's body. The skull was crushed. State troopers advanced the theory that Kehoe, before throwing into operation mechanism which blew up his property, killed his wife and transported the body to the outbuilding in a light cart. The cart containing Mrs. Kehoe's personal belongings and some articles of jewelry stood nearby.

The recent illness of Mrs. Kehoe, worries over financial reverses, brooding over what he considered excessive school taxes, and two serious accidents within the last eight years were advanced today as contributing causes of Kehoe's mental aberration. Foreclosure of a mortgage on the farm is believed to have been the incident that snapped his reason.

Bend will spend \$40,000 for macadam street work.

Children Cry for

Fletcher's CASTORIA

MOTHER:—Fletcher's Castoria is especially prepared to relieve Infants in arms and Children all ages of Constipation, Flatulency, Wind Colic and Diarrhea; allaying Feverishness arising therefrom, and, by regulating the Stomach and Bowels, aids the assimilation of Food; giving natural sleep.

To avoid imitations, always look for the signature of *Wm. D. Fletcher* Absolutely Harmless—No Opiates. Physicians everywhere recommend it.

CITY GOVERNMENT FORMS DISCUSSED

(Continued from page 1.)

district is entirely independent of other city departments.

In conducting an investigation on successes of the managerial form it was found that 54 per cent of the towns and cities using the plan, employed managers from within their own corporate limits. Of 350 cities adopting such a government, 194 have kept the same manager four or more years.

In Salem the manager would hire city employees with the exception of the recorder and councilmen. His full time would be spent as a professional, handling the business of the city. All direct non-policy business would be conducted without delay, promoting centralized responsibility. With all his importance and power, he would still be responsible to the council for his acts, placing the office much on a par with the business manager of a private corporation who is responsible to the directors.

Men of the engineering or law profession are preferred for the position almost entirely, according to Miss Marvin.

Wheeler—Water system being enlarged and mains extended.

JELLY BEANS

17c a Lb.
 2 lbs. for 30c

SPECIAL FOR SATURDAY ONLY

AT

SCHAEFER'S DRUG STORE
 Original Yellow Front
 Phone 197
 135 North Commercial
 The Penslar Store

BISHOP'S Closing Out Sale

Several Lines of Men's and Boys' Shoes and Oxfords

STARTS AT 8 A.M. TODAY

Quality Shoes

At Lowest Prices Ever Offered By This Store

BISHOP'S CLOTHING AND WOOLEN MILLS STORE, Inc.

SUMMER

\$12⁵⁰

Miller's Basement Features a New Collection of Lovely Printed Georgette Frocks For Today and Saturday

—June frocks are here! Bewitching frocks of georgette crepe in prints and plain materials combined to the tune of the season's wanted colors. Frills, pleats, bows, diaphanous berthas, here in frocks that fairly speak fashion's trend for the summer season. And \$12.50 is no burden considering these values.

Also

New Coats

\$12⁵⁰ and \$14⁹⁵

—New fancies in Coats of more than usual interest have arrived in the Basement Store and ready for today and Saturday. Smart plaids in contrasty and blended effects. Black and white checks in new ways. All priced wonderfully low.

MILLER'S BASEMENT STORE.....