EARL C. BROWNLEE
SHELDON F. SACKETT
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Editorial The New Oregon Statesman Features

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A great deal of talent is lost in the world for want of a little courage. Every day sends to their graves obscure men whom timidity prevented from making a first effort; who, if they could have been induced to begin, would in all probability have gone great lengths in the career of fame. The fact is, that to do anything in the world worth doing, we must not stand back shivering and thinking of the cold and danger, but jump in and scramble through as well as we can.—Sydney Smith.

The 1929 Legislature

MIGHTY matters hang in the balance today as the last preface to Oregon's biennial legislative session resolves itself into the mere passage of time and the dawn of tomorrow. The "lobby" that surrounds Oregon politics and legislation has been moved from Portland in the meantime and the chorus of self-seekers is enjoying its final rehearsal.

Monday the 40-day race against time will be under way. Soon the biennial flood of bills will engulf the attention of honest men—and otherwise. But let us not indulge that last thought. There are a sufficient number of voices to sing that song.

For the Statesman's part it welcomes to the capital city a splendid and interesting group of far-seeing, upstanding, honorable men—and a delightful young woman who will represent alone the case of her sex. In the 1929 legislature will be found some of Oregon's finest citizens, some of the state's most courageous and patriotic men; some of the state's most excellent examples of unselfish, constructive manhood.

Having been selected by the honest votes of honest people, this legislative group has fared through the period of distressful calumny that must attend politics and has bravely advanced to the work at hand. The face that the work now in sight would appear to be somewhat less important than usual does not deny the fact that every legislator will be called upon to extend his best energies to studies and his best thought to decisions that will effect the welfare of Oregon to a very large degree. For the most part, the members of the 1929 legislature are capable of both performances.

Very few men get into the legislative throng who have not some definite purpose to serve, either for themselves or the groups that caused their election. Yet even these men will join readily in the important general programs that develop. The fact that there will be sharp differences of opinion and method only proves again the need for just such a representative law making organization as the state legislature.

Taxation will be the battle cry of the 40-day session that opens Monday. Taxation is the question upon which the future political fortunes of the men and the woman who make up the bienniel session will rest. Taxation is Oregon's greatest problem.

The day before the session opens the hope may be expressed that the legislature will find some constructive way out of the dilema of taxes. There's no harm in hoping!

We welcome the concentration in Salem of the spokesman for every county and corner of the state and believe the welcome will not be modified in any degree by the flavor of our water.

Jimmie

JIMMIE got more first page space in the Chicago Tribune the other day than the king of England has had since his illness—

And this, briefly, is the story of Jimmie: Born in Chicago slums 40 years ago. Got his start in the world through the Waifs' Mission, a charity of the late Levi Z. Leiter. Through the influence of Mr. Leiter, the boys of the mission were called for messenger service by the business men of the city. Jimmy's job at the mission was to answer the 'phone—

And in 1892 the Chicago Times phoned for a copy boy; at $6 a week. "I'll send a boy right over," answered Jimmie. He sent himself. Jimmie continued to live in the Waifs' Home. A little later the Chicago Tribune phoned for a good copy boy. Jimmie was standing near the phone. "We got the world's greatest copy boy; I'll send him over," Jimmie said. Being a repeater, he sent himself over. He took the job; remained for 33 years.

He worked hard, long hours; applied himself; was kind, considerate, buoyant, cheerful, square. He rose to the place of city editor; had charge of all the reporters. Made friends by his geniality, insight into human nature, and democracy. Money and pull counted not with him; ability and adaptability and industry, and "square shooting" counted much.

When Lord Northcliffe sent a messenger boy to Chicago some years ago with a personal message, James Kelley, then editor of the Tribune, answered in like fashion—

He sent Jimmie. He had never before been outside the limits of Chicago, but he went, and delivered the note in London, and was neither surprised or confused by the order.

One of his duties was to release the reporters at 9:30 each evening. He would call out to them, "All right there, boys—if you're clear;" which meant that the reporters could go if they had finished their work.

It was thus he met the orders of the "Big Chief" at the end. He came to work Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock and the last "forms" of the paper closed at midnight. He started home, as he had done for 33 years; was taken ill on the way. His wife helped him to bed, and in a few minutes the last call came, and found his life's tasks all "clear."

John Oxenham in "A Little Te Deum of the Commonplace" had in mind such men as Jimmie Durkin when he wrote:

"For that supremest token of Thy love—
Thyself made manifest in human flesh;
For that pure life beneath the Syrian sky—
The humble toil, the sweat, the bench, he saw,
The nails well driven, and the work well done;
For all its vast expansions; for the stress
Of those three mighty years;
For all He bore of our humanity;
His hunger, thirst, his homelessness and want,
His weariness that longed for well earned rest;
For labor's high ennoblement through him,
Who labored with his hands for daily bread;
. . . .
We thank Thee, Lord!"

No Hand Out; Salem

SOME one has said, "The more you are up on a man the less you are down on him"—

And that is the way it is with Salem and the members of the legislature. Salem has a long acquaintance with legislatures; is up on them, knows their good intentions and the difficulties under which they labor—

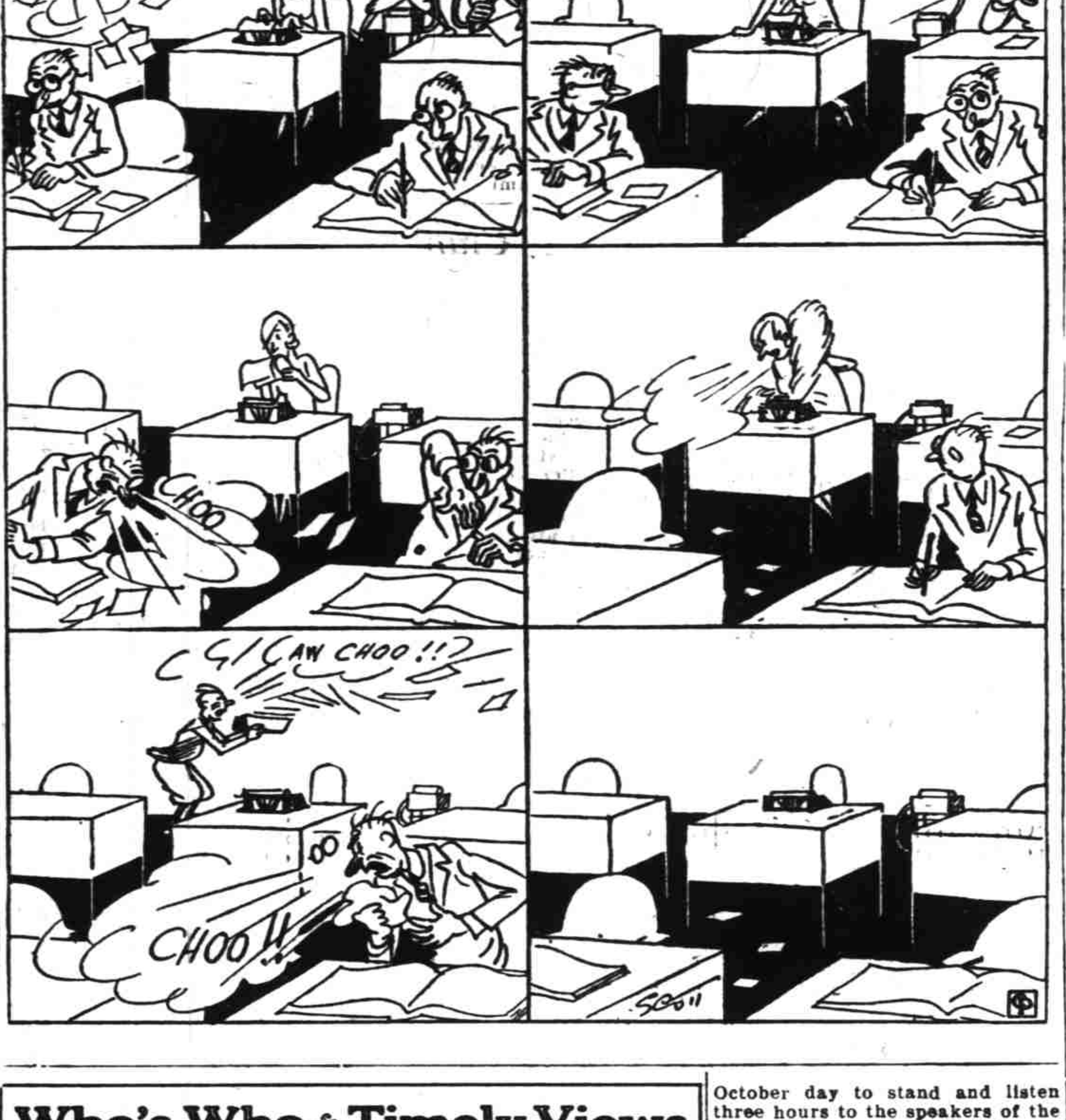
And is not down on them at all.

This time, Salem has nothing to ask of the legislature beyond what is good for the whole state, in every section of which the capital city is as a matter of course interested. Salem would like to see the state budget balanced, with the greatest all around fairness in which the difficult matter is capable of being adjusted. Salem hopes for an adjustment of the auto license fees without throwing monkey wrenches into the state highway system. As to the state institutions located in Salem, they will of course have proper consideration; they belong to all Oregon. In a little while, as matters are proceeding, the state penitentiary will be above asking for legislative appropriations. It is an industry first and a prison afterwards. Fully industrialized and well managed, it will be a model prison; reformatory instead of vindictive in its treatment of the inmates, as contemplated by the forward looking men who framed the state constitution.

Sale— has no hand out to the legislature; wants nothing that is r. * n harmony with the highest interest of the whole state—

Wishing well of the assembling legislators.

In-flu-enza



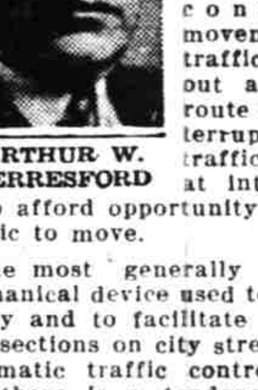
Who's Who & Timely Views

TRAFFIC PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

By ARTHUR W. BERRESFORD
President of the American Engineering Council

(Arthur W. Berresford was born in Brooklyn in 1872. He studied electrical engineering at Cornell university and was graduated in 1893. Berresford has worked along lines of electrical engineering with various companies. He served as vice president and manager of the Iron Clad Resistance company at Westfield, N. J., from 1898 to 1900; as superintendent from 1900 to 1905, and general manager since 1905. He also is connected with various other engineering concerns. Berresford has been president of the American Engineering Council since 1927.)

THE principal reasons why signals to control street traffic should be installed are to increase the safety of pedestrians and vehicles at congested intersections, to facilitate the movement of traffic with a minimum of delay at congested intersections, to provide for the continuous movement of traffic through out a heavy route and to interrupt a heavy traffic stream at intervals so as to afford opportunity for cross traffic to move.



ARTHUR W. BERRESFORD

The most generally effective mechanical device used to increase safety and to facilitate traffic at intersections on city streets is the automatic traffic control signal, but there is a tendency to use traffic control signals unnecessarily.

Some are installed indiscriminately, without a thorough analysis of the conditions and of the probable effects of their installation. Many are installed and operated where and when their use is not justified.

It is clearly obvious that some cities are making two fundamental errors in installing street traffic signs, signals, and markings. These errors are:

First, placing traffic control devices without adequate study of the conditions which their use is intended to improve, or of the evil effects produced at some intersections resulting from the attempt to correct undesirable conditions at one particular intersection.

Second, employing traffic control devices at places and times not justified by the conditions.

If these tendencies continue, the inevitable result will be a public recognition of the errors and a consequent neglect or unfriendliness toward street traffic signs, signals and markings.

This neglect will lead to the ultimate defeat of useful and effective methods of traffic control. Such fundamental errors can be avoided by obtaining expert engineering advice before any system of street traffic signs, signals, and markings is established.

In most cities the responsibility is placed upon some branch of the police department. No standard official organization handles questions relating to traffic signs, signals and markings, and this defect is perhaps one of the most serious features of the present condition.

As there is great variation in the state laws regarding signs and signals, it is obviously impossible to make recommendations that can be universally adopted until many such laws a * amended. Consequently, some municipalities may have to permit such deviations from these recommendations as to make them conform to the requirements of state laws.

The Way of the World

By GROVE PATTERSON

Shaping Minds

In the above paragraph Carl Sandburg says the people go on although the tongues of orators turn to dust. The people do go on and the manner of their going is determined in part by the spoken and the written word. People seem so bent on their pleasures, so intent upon having their own way that we sometimes think they are uninfluenced. But they are deeply influenced, more than we know. We are influenced beyond what we ever admit. We listen and sometimes heed little, but the impression is left.

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The People Go On

Carl Sandburg, writing in the Chicago News, tells of the Lincoln-Douglas debates. One of those great events was recently re-enacted at Knox college at Galesburg, Ill. Says Sandburg, biographer of Lincoln: "Three great actors or human forces took part in the Lincoln-Douglas debates. The orators, Lincoln and Douglas, were two of the actors in the drama. The third was the people. They came in the cold and almost frozen rain of a raw October day to stand and listen three hours to the speakers of the day. That crowd of 20,000 people was an instrument, a factor in history, that the minds and tongues of the orators tried to control and direct. In seven years both of the great orators were dead. But the people go on and oh. Perhaps a thousand years from now there will be a millinial celebration of the event of 70 years ago on this spot. The very words of all great orators testify and cry that while the tongues of orators turn to dust the people go on and on."

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From Weeks to Hours

There is much talk about the speed with which one can go from coast to coast across the American continent. Schedules between New York and Chicago come in for much discussion. More interesting, however, is the change in schedules which can be brought about in Central American countries. In Mexico, Central America and the Panama country it sometimes takes weeks to go a few hundred miles. Journeys which take two weeks may soon be cut to 20 hours. There are other countries where the airplane means more than in the United States.

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The Chicago Fair

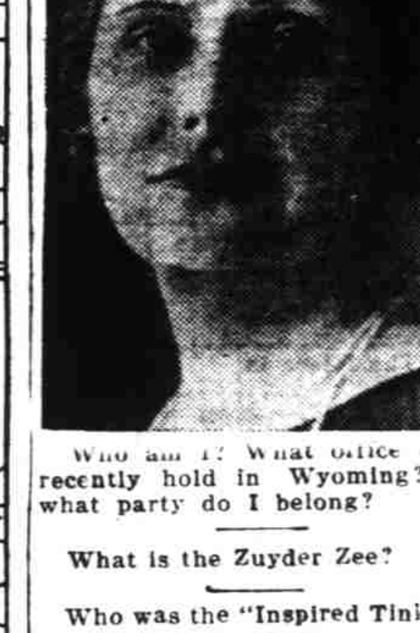
The Chicago World's fair in 1893 was probably the outstanding event for education, industry and entertainment since the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876. There have been other world's fairs, but somehow the big Chicago show seems to stand out as foremost in the last 35 years. Now Chicago is planning another exposition on grand lines. But the city has some inside preparation to make before she can invite the world. It is known for its racketeering and organized crime. Perhaps it is no worse in proportion than many people thing Wth ,.:; ...... other cities. Unfortunately many people think so. What Chicago needs is two campaigns: one to rid the city of racketeers and another to tell the world it is done. Then come on with the exposition.

THE ONE MINUTE PULPIT

O Lord, our Lord, excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.—Psalm viii, 1, 2.

The Grab Bag



Who am I? What office ... recently hold in Wyoming? To what party do I belong?

What is the Zuyder Zee?

Who was the "Inspired Tinker?"

Who was the first secretary of state in the United States?

"He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city." Where is this passage found in the Bible?

Today in the Past

On this date, in 1784, Congress ratified the treaty of peace with Great Britain.

Today's Horoscope

Persons born on this day are lavishly generous, but they often are slave drivers. They should study themselves and endeavor to correct their faults.

A Daily Thought

"He that is down can fall no lower."—Butler.

Answer to Foregoing Questions

1. Mrs. Nellie Tayloe Ross; governor; Democrat.
2. An arm of the North Sea penetrating the Netherlands.
3. John Bunyan.
4. Thomas Jefferson.
5. Proverbs. xvi, 32.

WORDS OF THE WISE

"Every man is his own greatest enemy, and, as it were, his own executioner."—Sir Thos. Browne.

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"I hold this to be the rule of life, 'Too much of anything is bad.' "—Terence.

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"Unless you bear with the faults of a friend you betray your own."—Syrus.

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"A hated government does not last long."—Seneca.

• • •

"Things forbidden have a secret charm."—Tacitus.

Poems that Live

ST. MICHAEL'S MOUNT

ST. MICHAEL'S MOUNT, the tidal isle,
In May with daffodils and lilies
Is kirtled gorgeously a while
As ne'er another English hill is:
About the precipices cling
The rich renascence robes of Spring.

Her gold and silver, nature's gifts,
The prodigal with both hands showers;
O not in patches, not in drifts
But round and round a mount of flowers—
Of lilies and of daffodils,
The envy of all other hills.

And on the lofty summit looms
The castle: None could build or plan it.
The four-square foliage springs and blooms,
The piled elaborate flower of granite,
That not the sun can wither; no,
Nor any tempest overthrow.

—John Davison (1857-1909)

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. Hendricks

Legislature convenes tomorrow—

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All three houses, with the third house several times as large as the other two.

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The long lease taken on the Roth Grocery company property by one of the big chain store groups is another indication of what men who take no chances think of the future of Salem.

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Salem has about 30,000 people now. How many will she have when that 30 year lease expires? It will be much more than three times 30,000, if all the things that are on the tapis come our way—or half of them.

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This lease will necessitate the removal of the Salem Y. W. That institution should move into a new building of their own.

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Mrs. Dan J. Fry gave her husband a surprise party the other evening, on the occasion of his 70th birthday. It seems only a little while ago when Mr. Fry, in 1882, came to Salem, a young fellow just out of the Philadelphia dental college. He went to work in the Briggs drug store, near the corner of Commercial and Ferry streets, on the west side. He married the daughter of City Marshal "Mode" Harboard. Mrs. Fry is a first cousin of Major General Harboard, who was in charge of the vast supply forces in the world war.

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Mrs. Fry had invited to their home a number of friends, mostly old timers here, though all young in spirit. It's the climate. In this valley men and women do not grow old. They just pass the years so delightfully that they have no time to grow old. But it was found that Mr. Fry is the only man in Salem, with a possible exception of a half a dozen men, who has remained in the same line of business for 47 years. There have been many changes. And Mr. F... added some side lines.

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Mr. Fry has proved ... things since he cast his lo... Salem. One important thing ... others, and that is that ... has been a very good tow... which to grow up. He wo... able to testify that it is still ... kind of a town.

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Let's show to the legi... and their families that Sale... worthy of her handle, as th... of welcome. Courtesy costs ... ing. The air of good fellow... free. And this is the state ... These people coming amon... stay over 40 days are ... people. We owe it to ... make them see that th... city is worthy of its po... distinction as such.

▪ ▪ ▪

This one is from a lady... ist in the back room, ded... one of the Adonic reporte... front office of this grea... newspaper:

"May I print a kiss on ... lips?" he said.
She granted him sweet ... sion.
They went to press,
And, I rather guess,
They printed a large edit...

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"That big car of Brown's ... kicks up a lot of dust," said a man from the prune district south of town. "No wonder, it's dragging a mortgage on a quarter section of land," said his cynical companion.

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Stop and let the train go by,
It hardly takes a minute,
Your car starts off again intact,
And, better still—you're in it.

(That's a poem handed in by the man who makes the trains with the Statesman mail—but (don't tell the police) there's a lurking suspicion in the mind of the Bits man that, like the proverbial doctor, he does not always take his own medicine.

They Say . . .

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Expressions of Opinion from Statesman Readers are Welcomed for Use in this column. All Letters Must Bear Writer's Name, Though This Need Not be Printed.

REVIEWS EXPERIMENT OF MUNICIPAL PLANT

To the editor of the Statesman: As there has been some talk about the water situation and the question of a municipal owned plant it might be of public interest to print an account of the experiment and experience of Lodi, California in that line.

In 1905 Lodi was a village of about 3000 population in a rich grape growing district in the San Joaquin valley. The water supply was from a well and delivered thruogh such small pipes that often we had to wait minutes for a cup of water from the faucets. Then it was not fit to drink for this service we had to pay $2.50 a month and the electric light service cost 10 cents a kilowat hour. Private owners refused to do anything in improving matters and, as we had to have a sewer system, the citizens decided to incorporate as a city and issue bonds for enough to install a sewer system and put in a water and light outfit too.

After we got started the private owners offered to sell out their plant at about twice its real value and after a lot of negotiation our council, to save time and litigation, bought the old plant at about 50 percent more than its value and proceeded to reconstruct the whole plant and let the contract for a sewer system.

After a few months the city council found that the revenue from water and lights, after all expenses were accounted for, would justify a reduction. The price of water was put at $1 and electricity to 6 cents. Then, as the use grew rapidly and the surplus piled up, they cut the price of electricity to 4 cents and power and fuel for stoves to 3 cents. The city bought electric cookstoves and furnished them to users at cost plus carriage, which was about half of the retail price at that time. The use of "juice" jumped so that in a short time the rate was cut to 2 cents and just last fall it was cut down to 1 cent per kilowatt hour. Water has been for years at 50 cent minimum rate, and plenty of it from new sources, of pure water, all paid for by surplus profits from electricity and water after all expenses, "overhead," bond payments, interest etc., were taken care of. The city has in the years since the municipal plant was installed, bought and paid for and improved a full block for a park, put in a public swimming pool with a warm water supply from an artesion well, lighted the ... with 300 watt street lights on concrete standards at no cost to the people, bought another small park and installed a fine comfort station, bought a half block near the center of the city and built a fine city hall at a cost of about $6... 000, and is now finishing a large addition to the Carnegie library, all from the surplus profits from water and light plants since 1907.

Lodi is a city of 10,000 or 11,000, has almost all of the streets paved, and many packing and cannery plants are prospering to complete the picture. The city council reduced city taxes for this year from $1.75 per $100 to $1.... I think is a fine showing of a well managed municipal plant, and quite a contrast to the prices paid by the citizens of Salem and surrounding country. Not many people realize that the cost of electricity is now less than three mills (a trifle over a quarter of a cent, per kilowatt, and is furnished to cities now at less than one cent wholesale, yet people still here in Oregon, are taxed up to 19 cents or $2.50 for 13 kilowatts in the country.

F. J. BEATY

Suggests Wells as Source For Water

Salem, Jan 12.

To the editor of the Statesman: Yesterday morning I read in the Oregonian that Hal E. Hoss has another job added when he is so busy counting the money coming in for new auto license plates. His is to drive a water wagon and bring to the legislators a supply of Bull Run water.

A terrible slam on Salem's water supply. Also it is a notice to bootleggers that members of Oregon's legislature drink water.

I have been drilling wells in and around Salem for the last five years and I happen to know that Mr. Hoss can save a lot of gasoline and oil and tires and get more and better water for the dear legislator's to drink out of wells in less than two miles of the state house. Also it might save an accident on the highway for, as he would have to go fast, he might bump some one with a load of something else to drink.

I wish to say now, so all can hear, that Salem's water service company is moving in the right direction to solve the 40 year-old problem of good water for Salem. A few 12-inch wells will do the job and next time the legislature meets the water boy will be out of a job.

To the man who thinks we can't get enough water from wells send him to St. Paul, Minnesota, and find out about their size and supply and also stop off at La Grande, Oregon, and ask the people there if they would like to go back to the Algae and half-supply they had before drilling their two big artesian wells.

R. A. WEST

High Pressure Pete — By Swan