

Fitted as a Water Expert

SALEM has in its midst a man who, The Statesman submits, is eminently qualified by experience to solve the city's water supply problem, inasmuch as he has done so for at least one other Oregon municipality. While here, it would be a shame not to utilize his services.

This man is none other than Oswald West, former governor of Oregon, now an active member of the "third house" at the legislature. Not so many years ago "Os" was the moving spirit in an ambitious undertaking for the reclamation of a large tract of arid land in central Oregon. For this purpose his company had obtained storage rights on the Deschutes river above Bend, and had constructed a test dam to determine the feasibility of impounding water under these rights. The test was a success, and many thousands of acres of water were held back. No steps toward utilization of the water on the land had been commenced.

Then there came a year of comparative water shortage, and existing irrigation projects and power companies were in serious straits.

"Os, turn loose your water," was the plea; and "Os" obligingly opened the dam gates and sent his impounded water coursing down the Deschutes.

Oh, what a terrible stench arose. The city of Bend, served by a privately owned water company, took its supply from the river.

"Bend People Forced to Drink Filth," screamed the headlines of a transitory but enterprising newspaper, and its readers drank in the words, but not the water if they could find anything to take its place. The fact is that Bend's water supply was just like Salem's has been in recent weeks, only three times as bad, and the reason was the same; microscopic algae which had flourished in Os West's reservoir.

It's a long story, one which ramifies into the realms of city politics, and state politics as represented by the 1925 legislative session, but the upshot of it was that Bend bought some questionable water rights and sought to trade them for clear, sparkling water from Tumalo creek—liquid identical with that which has rested in a jug on the desk of Speaker Hamilton in the house this session. This step embroiled the city in controversy with the irrigation district which owned the Tumalo creek water originally. Bend finally paid dearly for the rights, built a \$400,000 gravity system, and piped the clear, sparkling water into town.

The water company had built a huge filtration system to filter out the algae, but they wouldn't filter, or at least the taste wouldn't. So when the city bought the water system, it paid for the filtration system too, and sold it at cut rates.

But "Os" started the whole thing by opening the gates of his reservoir, and maybe he knows some way to solve Salem's water problem just as effectively.

Labor Deserts Soap Boxers

CLARENCE DARROW, Chicago lawyer, has always been the champion of the underdog. He has always taken the side of the downtrodden laboring man and often lent valiant service toward rectifying their wrongs. He now finds his services less in demand in this connection than he formerly did.

There has been a strike at an underwear knitting plant in Kenosha, Wisconsin, and Mr. Darrow went up to bolster up the cause of the strikers. He had a poor turn-out. The Chicago Tribune quoted Mr. Darrow as making the following remarks: "Twenty-five years ago this big hall would not hold every one who would want to hear the complaint of labor such as is being voiced tonight. Here we have just a small group. But what can you expect? The laboring man is home tonight reading the stock market reports.

"Prosperity is hurting the labor movement. You are becoming too well fed, too happy and contented, to fight. Politicians are no longer afraid of organized labor. You have elected as president the high priest of big business efficiency."

We wouldn't say that all the laboring men are gambling on radio stock or other pyrotechnical issues. Nor are all of them well employed, by any means for the winter has seen some distress for lack of jobs. On the whole though prosperity is well diffused. With Hoover on the job it is reasonable to expect a continuance of stable business and employment.

So Many Minutes of Character

THE house passed a bill making the teaching of character a required subject, with a certain portion of time to be allotted it. If the senate concurs in this foolishness we may then expect teachers to conduct classes in "character."

"Attention, children. Now we shall have 15 minutes in character building," the school teacher will say.

After that we can't guess what she can say. It would be a sort of warmed-over Sunday School lesson without any picture cards or merit badges.

There are plenty of ways and opportunities to teach character in school without measuring it out in daily or weekly medicinal doses. Moreover, the theory of legislative curriculum building is wrong. Even school boards do not try to prepare courses of study for the schools. They leave such things to the professional educators subject to the approval of the boards.

The statute books are cluttered up enough now with prescriptions as to what to teach and how much to teach of special subjects. Every one with a pet hobby was to get it into the school course. The shortest way is by having a legislature cram it down the throats of teachers and pupils.

The senate ought to turn down this house bill on character teaching. It would show a little "character" of its own if it did.

Battle of the Millions

COLONEL ROBERT W. STEWART reporting from the New York sector of the Standard Oil of Indiana battle front reports victories in sight in the war for proxies from shareholders. Winthrop Aldrich reporting from the same zone for the Rockefeller, junior, committee likewise claims the victory with 57% of the shares lining up for deposing Stewart. One thing refreshing these men are not like football coaches, sending out bear dope before the big game is pulled off.

It may be that each is right, Stewart having a majority of the number of shareholders with the Rockefeller committee a majority of the shares outstanding, which means of course that Stewart loses.

The issue will be decided at the annual meeting in Whiting, Indiana, on March 7. It is attracting more sporting interest in financial circles than the Hoover inaugural. It is attracting, too, some real concern from friends of decency in public life who hope that Stewart may be retired because of his shabby performance with the Continental Trading company deal.

March Brings Employment

THE Willamette Valley is glad to greet the first day of March. February was a "most unusual" month. Its snow and cold were most unwelcome to all except fuel dealers and snow-shovelers. All outdoor work came to a standstill and employment fell off. This impeded normal business and collections.

March brings in better weather. Industries are resuming. Building is beginning. Farming operations will soon be under way. The business pulse will soon be quickened.

Salem is looking forward to a good year. Building projects amounting to a million dollars are already assured for the city and this does not include residential construction.

The New White House Sokesman



Editors Say: Who's Who & Timely Views

If you were an aviator without peer and if you had made the most notable flight in history without an accident, and if you had taken for short and unmarred flights cabinet officers and senators and persons of high and low degree at many and various times, and if the world looked upon you as a symbol of competent safety in flying, and if your reputation had become very great indeed, and then if one day you took for a flight the person who was dearer than any other and if you cracked up and upset when you tried to land, and if you had a dislocated shoulder, and if a vast army of spectators were watching you and all grinning after they found nobody was hurt fatally, and if they began to ask you fool questions, what would you say?

Well, so would anybody almost. Lindbergh, however, restrained himself. He didn't tell his questioners where they could go. He just tightened his lips and remarked that he had nothing to say. And then he took his girl and went away from there. Morning Register, Eugene.

ISOLATING IT The proposed income tax, according to the correspondents at Salem, is to be so isolated from other revenue measures that there will be a minimum of difficulty in getting it with the referendum. In other words, the solons are preparing a feather and on which to land if they find that when all is said and done the income tax is an issue which they cannot escape. That's "them all over, Mabel," and we can see many a high-domed lawmaker who went to Salem pledged not to revive the income tax whispering to his disgruntled anti-income following: "Well, but we fixed it so it's easy to get at."

It is quite likely however, that most of the taxing and finance legislation passed at this session will come back to the people for approval. And if the income tax comes back, one very potent argument in its favor is going to be the fact that the legislature, after being given "carte blanche" to solve the problem by any other method was virtually forced to return to the plan of striking at the \$49,000,000 of wealth now not taxed which is in other kinds of holding than buildings and real estate. To be sure, the burden of formulating such legislation was passed along to the so-called "farm bloc," but only after it was apparent that other devices weren't going to work.

Any income tax that is fair at all should be stronger than any similar measure that has ever been before the people, if there is a referendum, because this legislature by common consent has indicated that the only way to relieve property taxes in Oregon is by somehow reaching those other kinds of property which have never been taxed.—Eugene Guard.

A SUMMER WHITE HOUSE

President Coolidge has suggested that congress make provisions for a summer White House for succeeding presidents. It is a suggestion that should be taken seriously.

The president of the United States has a most wearing job. Under the best of conditions, he undergoes a great strain. It is only good sense and good business to get him away from the heat and discomforts of a Washington summer and establish him some place where he can accomplish his work under less trying climatic conditions.

In this connection, the invitation of the Oregon legislature to President-elect Hoover to take up

his residence next summer in Oregon is timely. Why not let the summer White House be in the west?—Astoria Budget.

Property Recovered in Oil Reserve Suits Made Known

By CURTIS D. WILBUR, Secretary of the Navy

(Curtis D. Wilbur was born at Boonsboro, Md., May 19, 1867. He is a graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy and other universities. He resigned from the navy in 1928 and began the practice of law at Los Angeles. From 1929 to 1930 he was chief deputy district attorney for Los Angeles county; then served as judge of the superior court for 15 years. In 1919 he was made associate justice of the supreme court of California, three years later being named chief justice. He was appointed secretary of the navy in 1924.)

THE United States government has recovered, as a result of litigation involving the naval oil reserves, a total of \$47,137,696.28 in tangible and intangible assets.

As a result of the decision of the supreme court of the United States on February 25, 1927, covering leases and contracts of the Pan-American Petroleum company, on Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 1, at Elk Hills, Calif., "Not Wilbur's Boss" States came into possession of cash and properties amounting to \$34,891,449.63, according to the statement.

From the Teapot Dome litigation, involving Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 1, in Wyoming, which had been leased by the Mammoth Oil company, the United States received judgments amounting to \$12,156,246.66. Of the total \$3,053,512.39 is still due the government. The following sums have been paid or are payable to the United States treasury as a result of this decision:

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. Hendricks

They are doing a lot—The hard working members of the legislature.

In the first part of the session, they were accused of being a do-nothing bunch. Now it is the other way around, with the complaint that they are doing too much.

It is a case of you'll be damned if you do and you'll be damned if you don't. And that has been the rule since the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. It is a biennial wonder that any one would want to run for the Oregon legislature. But, take them by and large, that body is made up of a cross section of some of the best men in Oregon; and this has never been different in the history of the state.

In the matter of the closing session, this writer is willing to back confidently the present bunch with the ones that held forth in the pre-Volstead days, when House Bill 444 was in much evidence of having been "consulted" by a considerable proportion of the members.

It may be proper to explain that "House Bill 444" was a barrel of the whiskey of the "good old days," placed behind a door to which every member had an open sesame, without limit or stint.

After all, the Oregon legislators took Governor Patterson seriously when he told them in his message that the raising of sufficient revenues to pay the expenses of the state government was their job; so provided by the constitution.

The manager of the Salem water company is to talk at the chamber of commerce noon luncheon Monday. It is a safe guess that the tables will all be filled.

Approaching gardening time reminds a Salem stenographer of a neighborhood gag. "Aren't you afraid the birds will eat your seeds?" inquired a neighbor. "Oh, it isn't worth it; there's always one of us in the garden," answered the other neighbor.

The slogan pages of Sunday's Statesman will show that Salem is a growing poultry industry center. But there is room for faster growth. Salem has the call of the proper natural conditions to become the Petaluma of Oregon.

In the matter of her reputation as a cannery center, Salem is surely not living up to her opportunities by overlooking, so far chicken and turkey meat canneries. There is a big field here that is being passed up, and ought to be preempted.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to burglarize the New York racket store on Commercial street.

Passed Up! THE STORY OF A GIRL WHO MADE MEN LIKE HER

By ROE FULKERSON by Central Press Association, Inc.

READ THIS FIRST: In her career as a stage dancer, Betty Brown attracts many men, most of whom come for unwholesome motives. She dislocates her knee in an automobile accident in Andy's car, but she does not come to the hospital to see her, George Harris, an old friend, who disapproves of her dancing career, finances her through her recovery, and then gives her a position as cashier in his restaurant.

(KNOW US ON WITH THE STORY) CHAPTER XXXIX GEORGE ceased to come to see Betty in the evening, and although he purchased a small car, had only once taken her for a drive. He was so completely absorbed in his business it was almost impossible to talk to him on any other subject.

The red-haired waitress, Mary Roberts, was always near him. Betty thought she was either in love with George or the business, and was trying to marry George to get it. Whenever George came to the desk and started a conversation with Betty, the red-haired waitress would find some matter of business which would divert his attention. Betty watched this comedy with amused eyes. So long as she had her position, and knew she was making good at it, she was willing the girl should marry George if he liked. Marrying George was to Betty, a duty she would be glad to shirk, if it was possible.

George's restaurant was not patronized by the jazz crowd Betty knew in the night club where she had danced. With the single exception of the dancer from the Iron Door, she had seen none of them. She was made aware that some of them had seen her.

One young man whom she had learned was Mr. Thomas, at his dinners in the restaurant regularly. She had seen him often enough to exchange a casual word now and then. One night he dawdled late over his dinner until he saw Betty begin to balance the cash register for the night, and then hurried over, apologizing for keeping her.

"It is quite all right," said Betty, agreeably. "I can balance and leave the last two or three checks on tomorrow's business. I often have to do that."

"But I delayed you." He spoke contritely. "I have my car at the door. If you want me to believe I am forgiven, let me drive you home."

"Oh, I wouldn't think of troubling you, Mr. Thomas," Betty said. "It's not a trouble but a pleasure, if you don't think I'm impudent or fresh."

"No, I hadn't thought anything of the kind. If you really want to have a moment I will be glad to wait you drive me home."

"I'll wait out front and smoke till you come. I'll hook the horn when I see you come out."

Betty had not been in the society of any young man except George, since she came out of the hospital, and enjoyed hurrying to meet this one. He was not, apparently, the type who picked up

girls to whom he had not been introduced. Betty was glad of the lift home, as she was tired.

When she reached the door of the restaurant she looked around. The gentle sound of an automobile horn a few steps up the street called her. As she came to the car called her. As she came to the car called her. As she came to the car called her.

"What's the matter?" he asked. "Afraid?"

"I was in an automobile accident last night, and when we passed another car. That was the first time since then that I had driven past another car at any speed."

"Were you hurt?" he asked, interested.

"Both my legs were thrown out of joint at the knee. One is stiff yet," she explained.

"What that made you stop dancing?" he asked.

"Dancing? How did you know I ever danced?"

"I saw you several times at the Iron Door. I always wanted to know you. I didn't say anything about it at the restaurant because I didn't know if Old Soberdier knew you used to be a sport!"

"I wasn't a sport! I danced to make a living, like a lot of other girls."

"I suppose you supported an invalid mother, too?" He laughed, unbelievably.

"My mother and father are both dead."

"I believe that is the variation of the time-honored story. Have you a little brother who has to go to the hospital for an operation?"

"No," Betty spoke shortly.

"Cut it out, baby. I know all that stuff. Maybe you aren't a gold digger or you wouldn't be working in a restaurant. But I know a thing or two about night club dancers. I'll bet you wouldn't club Harris now you ever danced professionally for anything."

"He knows all about it. He loaned me the money to pay my hospital bill. I think we better turn back now. George Harris is the best friend I have in the world."

"Oh, ho! The wind blows in that direction, does it? Was it in his car you had your accident?"

"It was not."

"Was the other guy killed or something?"

"I don't know. I have never seen him since. Please turn around now. I want to go home."

"I will turn at the next crossroad. It takes us back to town another way, just as short as this. You needn't get touchy because I happen to know your past. I'm not the kind who'll tell."

"I have no past in the sense you mean." Betty defended herself stoutly. "Let's talk about something else."

"Oh, very well. Very well!" he laughed again. "I make it a practice to follow the lady's lead. You can ride back. I don't want you to think you are putting anything over on me. Harris would not know if you slipped out for a ride with me now and then. I'm not such a bad sport."

"I'll speak of riding with you tonight in front of him tomorrow so you will see I don't care if he knows. I have never done anything wrong. I am ashamed of it. I have done several things I have regretted. One of them was to yield to the impulse to come on this ride with you."

"Sweet so and so! Would you listen to her?" he exclaimed. "I am being sat on, I suppose. But there is no occasion for it. You are as safe with me as with your very dear friend, Mr. Harris. I won't even stop and neck you, I know you'll be disappointed, but I really can't do it. It might offend Mr. Harris!" His laughter was intended to take the sting out of his words, but failed in its purpose.

Betty rode silently for several miles, and then decided she had been more unkind than was justified. Having gone riding without a formal introduction, she might have expected him to be a bit inquisitive in a consequence.

"I hope you don't misunderstand me, Mr. Thomas," she began. "I didn't mean to be rude. A girl who does unconventional things must expect unconventional things as a result. I am oversensitive about my short career as a dancer. It brought me much sorrow and misunderstanding."

"Oh, that's all right." He pat-

ted her arm. "I'm not peeved, girlie. But you have less ground in the calcium light than a hard time convincing people they are shy, retiring little violets, of course."

"I suppose so. I found it so." Betty spoke wearily. She told him where she lived and he took her home, helping her politely out of the car.

Mrs. Hogaa was on the veranda when she came up the walk and asked, cheerfully, "Why didn't George come in dear?"

"It was not George," answered Betty.

"Not George? Dear, it is none of my business, but George is a mighty good catch for any girl. You better not play fast and loose with him."

(TO BE CONTINUED)

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO IMPROVE THE ALLEY IN EDGES ADDITION FROM THE EAST LINE OF FOURTEENTH STREET TO THE WEST LINE OF FIFTEENTH STREET IN SALEM, OREGON.

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Salem, Oregon, deems it necessary and expedient and hereby declares its purpose and intention to improve the ALLEY IN EDGES ADDITION, from the east line of Fourteenth Street to the west line of Fifteenth Street in Edges Addition, at the expense of the abutting and adjacent property, except the expense of which will be assumed by the City of Salem, Oregon, by bringing said portion of said alley to the established grade, and paving said portion of said alley with a six-inch Portland cement concrete pavement, fifteen feet in width, in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor which were adopted by the Common Council, on February 18, 1929, now on file in the office of the City Recorder, and which are hereby referred to and made a part hereof.

The Common Council hereby declares its purpose and intention to make the above described improvement by and through the Street Improvement Department of the City of Salem, Oregon.

By order of the Common Council February 18, 1929.

M. POULSEN, City Recorder. Date of first publication February 22, 1929. Date of final publication March 6, 1929. Daily to M-6

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO IMPROVE THE WEST ALLEY IN BLOCK 4 OF OAKS ADDITION FROM "E" STREET TO BELMONT STREET.

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Salem, Oregon, deems it necessary and expedient and hereby declares its purpose and intention to improve the WEST ALLEY IN BLOCK 4 OF OAKS ADDITION from "E" Street to Belmont Street, at the expense of the abutting and adjacent property, except the expense of which will be assumed by the City of Salem, Oregon, by bringing said portion of said alley with six-inch Portland cement concrete pavement the full width of the alley, to-wit: Ten feet, in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor which were adopted by the Common Council on February 18, 1929, now on file in the office of the City Recorder and which are hereby referred to and made a part hereof.

The Common Council hereby declares its purpose and intention to make the above described improvement by and through the Street Improvement Department of the City of Salem, Oregon.

By order of the Common Council February 18, 1929.

M. POULSEN, City Recorder. Date of first publication February 22, 1929. Date of final publication March 6, 1929. Daily to M-6

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO IMPROVE NORTH HIGH STREET FROM THE NORTH LINE OF DIVISION STREET TO THE SOUTH LINE OF BROADWAY STREET WHERE NORTH LIBERTY STREET INTERSECTS BROADWAY STREET.

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Salem, Oregon, deems it necessary and expedient and hereby declares its purpose and intention to improve North High Street from the north line of Division Street to the south line of Broadway Street where North Liberty Street intersects Broadway Street, at the expense of the abutting and adjacent property, except the expense of which will be assumed by the City of Salem, Oregon, by bringing said portion of said street to the established grade, constructing Portland cement concrete curbs, and paving said portion of said street with a six-inch Portland cement concrete pavement, about sixty-six feet in width, in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor which were adopted by the Common Council on February 18, 1929, now on file in the office of the City Recorder, and which are hereby referred to and made a part hereof.

The Common Council hereby declares its purpose and intention to make the above described improvement by and through the Street Improvement Department of the City of Salem, Oregon.

By order of the Common Council February 18, 1929.

M. POULSEN, City Recorder. Date of first publication February 22, 1929. Date of final publication March 10, 1929. Daily to M-10

CHILDS HEADS FORESTERS Thomas Childs of Salem, senior in forestry at the state college, has been elected president of the Forestry club, an organization of forestry students on the campus.