

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe."
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.
CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, SHEDDEN F. SACKETT, Publishers
CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor-Manager
SHEDDEN F. SACKETT, Managing Editor

Member of the Associated Press
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Entered at the Postoffice at Salem, Oregon, as Second-Class Matter. Published every morning except Monday. Business office 215 S. Commercial Street.

Pacific Coast Advertising Representatives:
Arthur W. Stipes, Inc., Portland, Security Bldg.
San Francisco, Sharon Bldg.; Los Angeles, W. Pac. Bldg.

Eastern Advertising Representatives:
Ford-Parsons-Stecher, Inc., New York, 271 Madison Ave.;
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Unemployment And English Politics

ENGLAND'S general election this month is hinged about with the economic strait to which the country has been subjected for the last eight years. During this period unemployment has been a gaunt wolf which has constantly stalked through the land.

Since the war England has never regained her strong place as the leading manufacturer of many articles which commanded a world market. Keener competition brought about by manufacturing advances made in the last decade by other countries, high tariffs imposed on English products in foreign lands and the cutting down of emigration, have all combined to increase England's army of the unemployed.

It was this unemployment situation which brought the party of labor into temporary power only to have its power wane when the conservative wing headed by Stanley Baldwin regained control of the government in 1924.

In the present crisis of English politics which will be fought out at the election late in May, the conservative party will be held accountable for its lack of accomplishment. Mr. Baldwin points out relief measures in children's pensions, old-age doles and legislation for better working conditions but he has failed to remedy unemployment. A government policy of "safeguarding" providing for tariff assistance to industries who can prove their injury from foreign competitors was adopted by the conservative party to give remedy to impoverished industries but the "safeguarding" afforded has been characterized as "trivial."

Ramsey McDonald represents labor at the polls this May. His opponents speak of the party as the socialist group, a term not pleasing to its members although the left wing has a phrase "socialism in our time" which destroys the idea which many labor members hold. Government ownership of railroads, electrical output and other public utilities is not the immediate objective of the party but Mr. McDonald urges control of these industries and their operation by the government, even in a field as harrassed as the coal industry, with a view to decreasing the privileges of the vested interests and restoring to the working people higher wages.

The campaign of Lloyd George of the liberal party is the most spectacular of any being waged and threatens to break the ranks of conservatism sufficiently to make possible a coalition between labor and liberal which will restore the former Premier McDonald's control. For years the liberal party has been split by a feud between Lloyd George and Asquith and many observers have predicted the utter extinction of the party. A situation not in the least borne out by liberalists "comeback."

George takes as his slogan "We can conquer unemployment" and he is touring England making a dynamic campaign. His plan is to establish a great program of public works on roads, housing construction and electrical development, thus utilizing millions of the unemployed. Improved financial conditions brought about by relief of poverty from unemployment will improve financial conditions that the burden of taxation brought about through increased public debt; this will be readily met, says George.

Less than a year ago the liberal party was thought doomed, now its stirring leadership brought about by George has awakened public consciousness and while there can be no hope that the liberal party will obtain control of parliament, or even approximate it, the 45 seats now held will be increased and there is an expectation that the labor and liberal parties together will be able to outvote the conservatives. If so, McDonald will come back to power and England will have opportunity to see if political medicines can cure economic distress.

America, faced with farm difficulties, has no such problem as England with its million and one-half of needy workers. For the farmer, no matter how hard pressed, lives and raises a family and enjoys some of the comforts of every day life. But in England poverty stalks through many of the manufacturing districts and it is evident that the coming election presents a crisis. Baldwin, the conservative; McDonald, the labor-socialist; George, the liberal, who promises now as in times past, to do great things; each represent conflicting views of the way out of England's economic travail.

Excise Decision No Surprise

THE decision of the United States supreme court voiding excise tax laws of states which attempted to include the income of banks and other corporations received from tax-exempt securities as the base on which to levy the excise tax is not in the least surprising. It is more surprising that the law-makers thought they could do indirectly what they knew they could not do directly. Chief Justice John Marshall in the famous case of McCulloch vs. Maryland laid down what has been the immutable law ever since: "The power to tax involves the power to destroy." He estopped the state of Maryland from levying taxes on the United States bank, since it was an arm of the government. Ever since then public securities unless otherwise stated in the terms of issuance have been exempt from all taxation. The banks will profit most by this decision since they are heavy holders of tax-exempt securities. The other corporations, like finance companies, building and loan associations, and investment companies will not be affected so much because they carry only small amounts of government and municipal bonds. The upshot of it all is that the banks which started out to get "equality" are winding up in more of a preferred position.

The University of Iowa gets disciplined because of the reports of a \$5000 slush fund raised by Iowa City merchants to import a few winning athletes. All the other universities in the Big Ten were pained and shocked. That is surely the signal for everybody to laugh, that is everybody who knows how chambers of commerce and alumni "support" home college athletics.

If college alumni associations ever "merge" they will equal the "power trust" in ability to run the country. We have an alumni publication on our desk now we want to take a crack at soon.

The Great Northern is calling its new crack train, "The Empire Builder". That must be plagiarized from the first line of our Oregon: "Land of the empire builders."

So far the Portland cement people have not tried to make office furniture out of re-inforced concrete.

One wag has it that the members of President Hoover's cabinet are not "Yes men" but "Yes sir men."

An Extra Job For Geneva



BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

All poor and all rich—

That was the anomalous condition in Oregon up to the time of the gold rush to California in 1848. It was like the Utopia of Sir Thomas More, in which no man had anything, yet all men were rich, nor did any one lack for anything. With the difference that in early Oregon all lacked for many things that would have contributed to their convenience and comfort, but since the lack was general no one complained over much.

This column on Tuesday had a few words about the early transportation monopoly on the Columbia and Willamette rivers, and around the falls of the Willamette at what is now Oregon City, by historic characters in the early settlement of the country; also about a famous excursion to the mouth of the Columbia on the Calapooia, the boat that was a part of the monopoly named. Col. J. W. Nesmith, then a very young man, afterwards U. S. Senator, was on that excursion, and he told how things anchored the Calapooia at the old shack that was then all of Fort George, afterwards Astoria, anchored the craft with a big balsam boulder made fast to the end of a rawhide rope. The next morning young Nesmith and Robert Shortess got an Indian canoe and boarded the old Belgian brig indefatigable, just arriving from

From prudential motives, in their long intercourse with Indians, the employees of the Hud-

son's Bay company had adopted the rule of passing articles called for out through a hole in the wall or partition. No one was allowed inside a Hudson's Bay company store to examine the goods and make selections. Thus, when the early settlers came in, trading for a suit of clothes, for instance, there was often an odd medley of color and size. The garments were all gotten up on the most magnificent proportions in regard to size. The early settlers used to say that Dr. McLoughlin, chief factor of the company and virtually governor and king of all the old Oregon Country, who was a very large man, had sent his measure to London, and all of the clothing was made to fit him!

Thus the hickory shirts the settlers bought came down to their heels, and the wrist bands protruded a foot beyond the hands, in cases of men of medium size; more so with small men. A small sized settler buying one would have enough cloth left to clothe one to several of his children. But even so, there was not enough clothing in stock to supply the needs of the unexpected early immigrations. So the early day clothing was mostly of buckskin; for both men and women.

A pair of buckskin pants, moccasins, a hickory shirt and some kind of a cheaply extemporized hat rendered a man comfortable as well as presentable in the best society. That was very well in dry weather; but after exposure to a hard day's rain, dried out in front of a warm fire, such an outfit might and often did contract a foot in longitude in a single night. So it was not uncommon for a foot or so of nude and arid skin to show between the top of the moccasin and the end of the breeches; the knee protruding in front, while the rear started off in the opposite directions, so that when the wearer stood up, the

Editors Say:

WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT

WHEN one studies the personalities, interests and connections of the railroad giants identified with the present railroad war between the Western Pacific-Great Northern combination and the Southern Pacific system, one is moved to ask what's it all about?

For instance, the position of Arthur Cutler James—apparently the moving factor in the proposed invasion of Southern Pacific territory—is obviously contradictory. This man not only is the principal stockholder in the Great Northern, Northern Pacific and Western Pacific but also is the largest in the Southern Pacific.

We see then the picture of Mr. James espousing the interest of one block of his stock—the W. P. and G. N.—and fighting another block, the S. P. He even goes so far as to advocate paralleling the Southern Pacific line south from Klamath Falls!

Figuratively speaking, the bewildered public scratches its cranium, and wonders what goes on behind the scenes in this battle of western railroads.

Hale Holden is another paradox. He was president of the Burlington, controlled by the northern lines. Last year he was appointed chairman of the Southern Pacific board of directors. His appointment gave rise to the rumor that the northern and southern lines had made their peace and that future relations would be governed by cooperation rather than opposition.

Today, insofar as the public is concerned, Mr. Holden is fighting his former railroad with every ounce of energy and ability he possesses—and that is quite a bit for he is recognized as one of the foremost railroad men in the United States.

There is something rather strange about the entire lay-out? Why should Mr. James be trying to slap himself in the face? Why should Mr. Holden be at the helm of the Southern Pacific? In short, what's it all about.—Klamath Falls Evening Herald.

Old Oregon's Yesterdays

Town Talks from The Statesman Our Fathers Read

May 29, 1904

Mayro McKinney and E. A. Rhoden, prominent Turner farmers, were in the city working up interest in a Farmers' Institute and picnic and livestock show to be held in West Stayton Wednesday and Thursday, June 8 and 9.

Charles Livesley, who is architect and builder for his own home in this city, has nearly completed his residence, declared to be one of the finest pieces of architecture hereabouts.

Fire which originated in a sofa called the fire department to the home of Policeman and Mrs. James Lewis, 316 12th street. A serious conflagration was avoided by the quick action of neighbors.

breeches were in constant struggle to sit down, and vice versa.

But those were "the good old days," with all their lacks. Said Peter H. Burnett, afterwards governor of California and a wealthy banker, who was an Oregon immigrant with the 1843 Applegate train, speaking of the early Oregonians: "They were all honest, because there was nothing to steal; they were all sober, because there was no liquor to drink; there were no misers, because there was nothing to hoard; they were all industrious, because it was work or starve."

A "higher civilization" brought in the gin-mill, the jail, the insane asylum, the poor house, the penitentiary and the gallows. The reader may make his or her own sermon in reflecting on the comparison between the good old days and the higher civilization.

Here and There:

Terse comments on Events, Local and Abroad, of the Past Week.

A SALESMAN of houses proposes the purchase of a home by a newlywed couple on the basis that owning a home is cheaper than renting one. The reverse is more often true. House ownership means payment of interest on a sum ranging from \$7000 to \$6000 in most cases, payment of taxes, insurance and other expenses of upkeep. Owning a home, with rentals such as are in Salem, is more expensive than renting a home.

What the salesman could have said, truthfully, was that owning a home was far more satisfactory than renting one. There is the universal satisfaction resulting from personal possession of property, and added to this very real joy is one resulting from the possession of a "home", a joy never possible with a rented house. It is true, also, that while it costs money to own one's own home, it brings saving to meet the monthly payments when due. The real estate man meant, we take it, that it costs more to own a home, but it's worth it.

LINDBERGH hates publicity; the flashlight irks him. Strangely enough publicity did much to make the flier famous. We feel sorry for the bride that it seemed necessary to forego the pleasure of friends, their well-wishes, their many presents, at the greatest day in her life. Lindy could unbend a bit without any diminution of the public's approval. It's a penalty of modern greatness to be subjected to the spotlight of publicity but the penalty need not be irksome.

THE flareup in the senate is to produce good results in the fact that from now on only a majority vote will be needed to open to the public the delectable details concerning presidential nominations and the consideration they receive. The 150-year old rule about secrecy in the senate on such discussion goes by the boards. Well that it should. The public wants the facts. If senators are afraid to let their vote be known they have no business in the senate. Secrecy is a poor cloak to hide cowardice.

A RECENT magazine article informs us that men use \$60,000,000 worth of perfume annually in the United States. Women use six times that amount. The latest device of the perfumery makers is to perfect a scent for every type of personality. The sex appeal of perfume is enhanced as it fits the "type" of its user.

Perfumery making is a great art. The ingredients of perfume are gathered from all parts of the world. Attar of roses is made from the choice blooms of roses which grow in a narrow valley in

Bulgaria and it is said that 50,000 roses are utilized to get one ounce of the pure product. The perfumery has its "staying" qualities from a base made of musk or from a gland found in the civet cat or from ambergris, found floating in the ocean thrown off by a whale.

IOWA pays too much for its athletes and must stay out of the Big Ten conference! Another case of the pot chiding the kettle. No longer can colleges complain about professionalism when every good athlete is bid for like good stock on the market. If Iowa is to blame so is every other school in the conference.

Years ago Clarence Buddington Kelland wrote an impressive story about the Last Veteran. He it was who lived to observe the final Memorial day for a Civil War soldier. As we read the story, touching and full of pathos, it seemed the day would never come. But it approaches. Note the news stories in the papers; they tell of the fading ranks; communities where only a handful of the veterans are left and these no longer able to march in the parade but riding at the front, honored and revered. Approaches. Note the news stories in the papers; they tell of the fading ranks; communities where only a handful of the veterans are left and these no longer able to march in the parade but riding at the front, honored and revered. Approaches. Note the news stories in the papers; they tell of the fading ranks; communities where only a handful of the veterans are left and these no longer able to march in the parade but riding at the front, honored and revered.

Tooze Asserts St. Helens Is Moving Rapidly

A "Fir Tex" plant which will produce a product from waste mill materials is soon to be erected in St. Helens. At a total investment cost of \$2,500,000, according to F. J. Tooze, editor and publisher of the St. Helens Sentinel who was a business visitor in Salem Monday. Tooze was formerly a part owner of The Statesman Publishing Co. and edited an Oregon Teacher and the Pacific Homestead. He is enthusiastic about the possibilities of St. Helens, saying that the town is very active industrially. The paper mill established there has done exceedingly well, Tooze reports.

Executive Wanted

A Large Eastern Life Insurance Company writing Life, Accident, Health Insurance, desires manager for Salem territory. Liberal commissions and salary. Address in confidence box 727, care Statesman.

Not too late to wire your Memorial Day Flowers.

C. F. Breithaupt
Florist
Phone 380

Ready for Long Ocean Flight



Roger Q. Williams, left, and Captain Lewis A. Yancy, right, standing in front of their Bellanca, "Green Flash," are set to make the long hop across the Atlantic from Old Orchard Beach, Me., to Rome, Italy. They have rushed preparations for the flight in order to be able to start as soon as the three French aviators who plan a hop to Paris. The "Green Flash" is the same plane in which Martin Jensen set the world's endurance record recently.

COME!



Mt. Crest Abbey will be open to the public all day Thursday
Memorial Day, May 30

MT. CREST ABBEY MAUSOLEUM

Lloyd T. Rigdon, Manager