

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Shows Us; No Feat Shall Awe."
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

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The Ills of Politics

FORMER Governor Lowden, addressing the graduates of the state university Monday gave forceful warning of the danger that threatens the representative form of government. Now, he says, it is on the defensive. "If the people cannot themselves maintain an orderly government and cannot through constitutional means, secure social justice to the great body of people, autocracy in some form is bound to come." A similar thought was doubtless in the mind of President Hoover when he urged the Willamette graduates to practice the civic virtue they had been studying in the theory, admonishing them however that the practice was more difficult than the study. Governor Gaulfield of Missouri made a recent statement deploring popular indifference to politics and disdain of politicians, asserting that this attitude tends to degrade and will ultimately destroy popular government.

What is the trouble?
The trouble is that this is a business age and not a political age. The majority of our citizens are so busy buying automobiles, houses, overstuffed furniture, Montgomery Ward stock or other idols of the day that no thought is given to statecraft. It is an age of "things". Mass production and mass advertising are dumping a largess of mechanical riches into our laps. So engrossed are we with our new toys, and so concerned in the business of money-getting that politics is eschewed. That is one side of the picture.

The other side is that politics has developed into pretty much of a fine art, where only the practiced hands win the games. The well-meaning amateur has as little chance in the political arena as the gambler to break the bank at faro. Legislators, for instance, mill around futilely until the few insiders call the roll and make all the vital decisions.

The business man of today looks upon politics with contempt. Politics interferes with money-making. The real business executive has no more use for a politician on his staff than he has for a flute-player. Politics, like music, doesn't mix with business. Easier to let the professional politicians pull their deals and get away with the swag so long as "business" isn't disturbed. Prosperity is the sacred cow of America.

That is the only way we can account for the fact that the republican party went unwhipped after the mauseous disclosures of the iniquities of the Harding administration. That is why cities like Chicago are graft-controlled. In the face of investigations revealing that the Chicago sanitary district officials squandered over \$18,000,000 in seven years, unlawfully, the majority of the investigating committee of the Illinois senate whitewashes the officials and says there was "no evidence of graft, useless expenditure of funds." The facts were that tens of thousands of dollars were spent on wild parties, and other millions spent on items not connected with city sanitation. Yet Chicago is corrupt and unashamed.

Proudhon said: "Monarchies are destroyed by poverty; republics by wealth." The race for acquiring wealth is undoubtedly the cause of the political decay manifest at the present time. Even our law-making nowadays is apparently all designed to add to the wealth of one group or another. Tariff for certain manufacturers or certain districts, political bounty for agriculture—aid, subsidy, debenture. Yet America prates about its economic self-sufficiency, its superior resources and abilities, its "independence." Business executives berate government interference in business; then run around to the side door of capitol for political handouts. So long as politics is the wet-nurse for property; so long as political organizations can sell the public interest to private corporations or groups in return for their stay in power, just that long will government be mis-representative.

Clearing the Way for the Relief Program

WE believe there was more sincere support for the export debenture than there was for the equalization fee. The export debenture is far more practical than the old fee arrangement. Distraught congressmen who have made so many promises they feel now they must make delivery are hardly to be blamed if they catch at the export debenture plan as something to relieve the farmer and their own obligations. Senators find further justification in voting a bounty to farmers when they see a tariff bill coming up, voted through the house by the whip of the organization, without privilege of amendment or adequate debate, which makes even higher average duties than prevail in the Fordney schedules.

The export debenture plan is wrong in principle and as President Hoover points out, in practice it might work more to the profit of the miller, the packer, the grain buyer and exporter than to the benefit of the actual producer. It is essentially a subsidy, a bounty from the treasury for a particular group or class. It is more brazen than the tariff and lacks what the latter contributes in the way of revenue to the government.

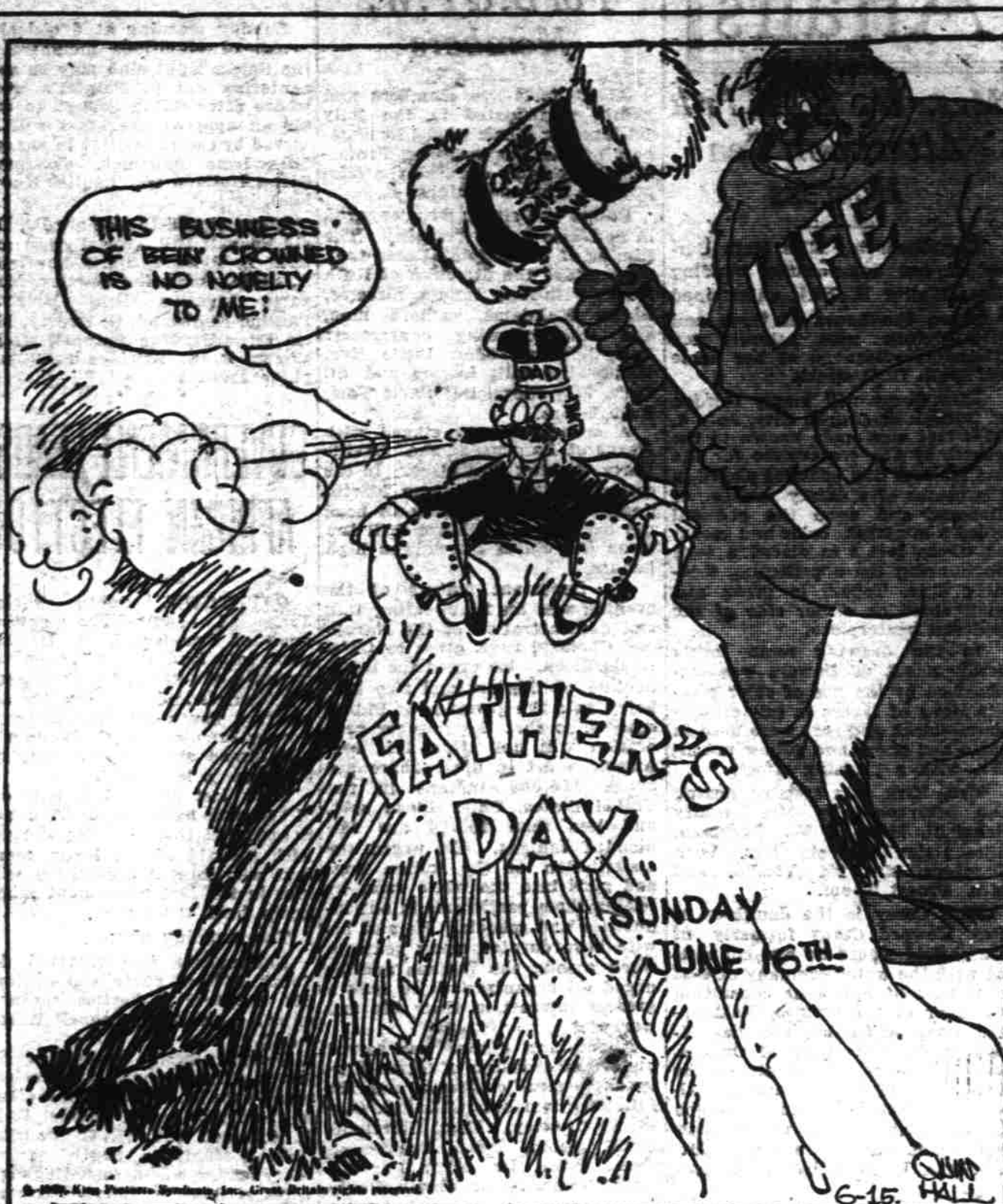
The chart for American progress economically ought to be in the direction of less bounty and subsidy, less protection and tariff rather than more. The evil of the proposed tariff is that it makes wholly unwarranted increases in duties. The scale of duties should point downward instead of upward. The sudden popularity of the export debenture is, we believe, the result of resentment at the wholesale revision of the tariff which the Hawley bill embraces.

The way is clear for the great experiment. We profess we have little faith in the farm relief program. The governing law is bound to be supply and demand. Legislative interference is apt either to prolong the agony or magnify the ultimate catastrophe. Our friendship is for and with the farmer. We hope there may be real farm relief in the McNary bill; but unpatriotic minds are frankly skeptical of its success. Speculators do not seem to hope much from it, judging from the way markets have pointed downwards.

President Hoover will have a task to assemble a board composed of real leaders and not just whisk-broom farmers with a penchant for office-holding. It is not an easy position to fill; this board will have about the biggest responsibility of any since the war. The fate of the whole program will rest on the decisions of this board.

Even congress isn't so happy over the killing of an innocent person by prohibition officers as it was over the killing of a man by a gunman in a little consequence because officers are "interfering" with personal liberty anyhow. For our part we deplore keenly the killing of anyone, innocent or guilty. In line of duty officers have to go armed for self-protection; but pulling the trigger should be the last resort of an officer.

King For A Day



BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Stirring scenes—
At the end of a long fight:

Judging even by the cold type official account in the Congressional Record, the session of the lower house of congress on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 28th, was an intensely interesting one. The house met at noon. There was prayer by Bishop William F. Edwards of the Methodist Episcopal church; an old fashioned prayer that might have been offered in any church or other meeting.

The house was to go into committee of the whole to consider the tariff bill, and then arise and come to the final vote, and so it resolved itself automatically under the rule by order of the speaker, and Congressman Hawley of Salem, Oregon, chairman of the ways and means committee, took charge and presented amendments from the committee.

Then the fireworks began, kindled mostly in good spirit, but draped with oratorical ornaments by the democratic members, accusing the republican majority with inconsistency. The republicans had their caucus adopted some strict rules, in order to expedite business—just as the democrats did when they were in power and the Underwood tariff bill was being considered. When the democrats were especially severe in regard to the rule that no amendments would be considered unless brought in by the ways and means committee. Congressman Garner of Texas, democratic, called the "way rules" because they had restricted debate on the house republicans were accused by Warren of North Carolina with the charge that they were about to "jam their high tariff bill down the country's throat without even the ceremony of adequate debate."

Mr. Hawley went quietly along offering amendments for the committee, and Garner got one vote on recommending the whole bill, which was lost on roll call, 157 to 254, with a number paired or not voting. Then the speaker put the final vote on the passage of the bill, which was carried by 254 to 147, with about the same number paired or not voting, or merely answering present.

In the course of the final discussion, however, some notable tributes were paid to Congressman Hawley, in charge of the bill. Congressman Nelson of Illinois, democrat, said: "The real reason why I obtained the floor at this time is to express my thanks, and I think I speak also for all the minority members of the ways and means committee, to the competitor and genial gentleman from Oregon, the chairman of the ways and means committee."

Tuesday of Massachusetts said: "Permit me to say in closing that the man getting out of this whole job, which has extended over a period of five months, has been the able, efficient and courteous chairman of the ways and means committee, the gentleman from Oregon. Honestly, I do not know where we 155 men might have drifted had we not had the guiding hand of one who has always there to absolutely control the situation by his own dignified methods."

Resolutions were adopted by the commercial club favoring city operation and ownership of the electric water plant.
Dr. Charles H. Brewer of Stayton was a business visitor in the city. He has been in Portland buying fixtures for the drug store to be opened in the new Brewer building here in July.

Editors Say:

HOPE FOR FARM RELIEF
There is more hope for agriculture right now than for some time past due to the defeat of the so-called farm relief measure by the senate, bringing about a deadlock which may become permanent, meaning no farm bill at all this summer. Nothing could be better news for the farmers, but the dirt yards and the white-collared types, if Providence will kindly continue its apparent efforts to keep Borah mad at the president and Johnson of California still

smartering under "the crack of the party whip" all will be well.

rather be a frog living on a dung mound" shouted the irascible senator from California and if the gentleman profess that kind of a diet there is none to raise any objection.

The farm aid bill with the debenture clause is slightly worse than the measure which under one guise or another is inserted into every bill to "aid the farmer" by some enthusiastic near-socialist who believes that it is possible for government fiat to overcome the farmer's law of supply and demand. President Hoover called congress together in pursuance to campaign pledges; he has done his duty and it is not incumbent upon him to tell the national legislators what kind of a bill to pass. He should thank his lucky stars if the two houses have become deadlocked. He should do all within his power to keep them in that condition until they tire of the game and adjourn. Farmers of the country are going to be too busy the next few months harvesting and marketing immense crops to be bothered with being saved by governmental methods. May great power be invested in Senators Borah and Johnson and may they keep the two houses apart indefinitely.—Yakima Republic.

AIR CLUBS FOR BRITISH RICH

Air clubs are being formed among the young rich of Britain who have tired of the crowds on the motor highways. Any club member of average ability is said to be capable of obtaining an official certificate of proficiency as a pilot after 15 hours' flying and many do it in less. The cost, including a club entrance fee, subscription and tuition fee, is estimated at \$150. Light planes carrying two people and their baggage may be bought for \$3,100 to \$3,500.

Greater Salem Commercial club held an enthusiastic meeting at which J. W. Covert, manager of the Dallas-Falls City railway, submitted a proposition to build a line to Salem. The proposition was accepted and committee appointed to push arrangements. Work will be under way on or before July 15. If the town officially accepts the plan, Salem must furnish terminal grounds, right-of-way through West Salem and must meet other concessions. Cost of building the 14 miles of track is estimated at \$147,054.

Old Oregon's Yesterdays
Town Talks from The Statesman Our Fathers Read
June 15, 1904
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CHURCHES

FOND MEMORIAL
West Salem, Corner Third Street and North Avenue, Rev. M. A. Groves, pastor. Wednesday 7:30 P. M. Service. Thursday 12:15 P. M. Service. Sunday 9:45 A. M. Service. 12:15 P. M. Service. 7:30 P. M. Service. Pastor, Rev. M. A. Groves, pastor. Wednesday 7:30 P. M. Service. Thursday 12:15 P. M. Service. Sunday 9:45 A. M. Service. 12:15 P. M. Service. 7:30 P. M. Service.

WYOMING
Corner 11th and Center streets, Rev. Marvin P. Ferry, minister. Devotional services at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. "The Age of Reason." Mrs. Martin Ferry will sing. "I Will Lift Up Mine Voice." Mrs. W. A. Dunbar at the organ.

FIRST CHRISTIAN
Corner 11th and Center streets, D. J. Howe, pastor. Residence 765 N. Cottage. 9:45 A. M. Morning service. 7:30 P. M. Evening service. Pastor, D. J. Howe, pastor. Residence 765 N. Cottage. 9:45 A. M. Morning service. 7:30 P. M. Evening service.

REFORMED CHURCH
Corner Capital and Marion streets, W. S. Linschmeper, pastor. Sunday school 9:45 A. M. P. M. Service. 7:30 P. M. Service. Pastor, W. S. Linschmeper, pastor. Sunday school 9:45 A. M. P. M. Service. 7:30 P. M. Service.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Corner 11th and Center streets, Rev. Norman E. Tully, D. D., pastor. Church school 9:30 A. M. L. M. Service. 7:30 P. M. Service. Pastor, Norman E. Tully, D. D., pastor. Church school 9:30 A. M. L. M. Service. 7:30 P. M. Service.

AMERICAN LUTHERAN
Corner 11th and Center streets, Rev. W. Earl Cochran, pastor. Bible school at 9:45 A. M. P. M. Service. 7:30 P. M. Service. Pastor, W. Earl Cochran, pastor. Bible school at 9:45 A. M. P. M. Service. 7:30 P. M. Service.

WOMAN'S GUILD
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To Build Up Young Wives
"I was in a run-down condition after a miscarriage and I left me awfully weak. I could not eat enough and I could not work. A friend told me to take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and I got good results from it. I took four bottles and have gained eight pounds. You may use this letter as a testimonial if you value it."—Mrs. Joseph Catalano, 122 Florida Avenue, Amsterdam, N. Y.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound
Compound for Sale at Nelson & Hunt Drug Store, Corner Court & Liberty, Tel. 7

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Subject Sunday—Two Greatest Facts in History
Nightly but Saturday at 7:45

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