

# The Oregon Statesman

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

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.

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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. Stuyves, Inc., Portland, Security Bldg.  
San Francisco, Sharon Bldg.; Los Angeles, W. Pac. Bldg.

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## Source of Banking Strength

THE FAILURE of the largest bank in Astoria recently brings to the front again the fact that the strength of a bank does not depend on the size of its deposits but on the character of its assets. Banks frequently advertise their total resources as reaching a certain figure. That doesn't mean a great deal for their liabilities to depositors is always close in amount to the figure of their assets, the difference being the protection provided by capital, surplus and undivided profits.

There is no substitute in banking practice for sound management. There is no artificial formula which will make banks safe. State guarantee systems have been tried and proven unsound. Chain or group banking may have some advantages but not to the extent of covering up faulty judgment in loaning money. The only chain nationwide in its extent was the brotherhood banks; but this chain is breaking up and the individual banks have many of them been disposed of. The investment company of the engineers which launched an ambitious program of banking, real estate development, etc., has gone into receivership. Rudolf S. Hecht, president of the Hibernia Bank and Trust company of New Orleans, speaking before the Illinois Bankers Association recently, made forceful reference to the fact that neither branch nor unit systems of banking may be substituted for managerial ability. To quote from his speech:

"Over-expansion and frozen credits can occur under one system as well as another. This is best illustrated by the fact that within the same period covered by the above statistics we had failures such as the Bankers' Trust company chain of Atlanta, which a few years ago caused 83 apparently independent banks in two states to close their doors within 48 hours, the failure of the Home Bank of Canada with 78 branches, and the practical failure and forced absorption of the Merchants' Bank of Canada with 400 branches.

"After all, good banking is not a matter of size. A properly conducted small country bank can be as safe as a large city institution with many branches. Success in the banking field depends on good management, whether the unit be large or small. It cannot be denied of course, that larger institutions can and usually employ more capable men with greater experience and sounder judgment than can the average small unit bank. They also have, on the whole, better facilities for standardizing their business, keeping themselves properly informed, and thus escaping many losses resulting from actual operations as well as from poor credits.

"However, we have reached a point in our profession where most of the deficiencies of the small town bankers can be supplied, not necessarily by making any fundamental changes in our banking system or by giving up any of the unit bankers' independence, but merely by bringing about a better spirit of co-operation and mutual helpfulness."

The fact that a large bank in an important city of the state has passed into liquidation is no index of banking conditions over the state as a whole. The Astoria situation was one of some years' standing. Conditions there now are distinctly favorable as fishing, which is the major activity in this season highly profitable. The state banking department has been increasingly vigilant in preventing banks from getting into strained situations. Since the post-war banking catastrophes bankers themselves have been exceedingly cautious. It may still be said that there are "too many banks" for all to thrive; the process of elimination will probably be through mergers and absorption rather than through forced liquidation.

## Secretary—or Executive?

ONE of the first questions the board of higher education has to decide is the character of the office of secretary. Is that official to be a secretary or to be an executive?

Frank Irvine, veteran regent of the State College, is right in urging that the office be entirely subordinate, that it be purely clerical in character, that it by no means carry with it the functions of being the executive of the board. Mr. Irvine urged at the organization meeting that the presidents of the several institutions be left supreme in their individual fields, with direct access to the board. Any other way of handling the institutions would be suicidal.

If the board sets up a real executive he will try to run the several institutions; he will be in effect a "chancellor" of education, an office which the legislature turned down in considering this very measure. There would be an open road to friction and discord if the individual presidents made their contacts with the governing board through an executive secretary. The less responsibility, which means the less salary, which is given the secretary, the greater the assurance that the new scheme of things will work out smoothly.

The institutions find some difficulty in handling their purchasing through a state officer located in another city. If now on matters of administration they are to be subordinated to another Salem executive the machinery of control might break down.

We hope the board follows the advice of Mr. Irvine and preserves the office of president of the individual institutions with powers unimpaired, with direct access to the single governing board, and with no complications of having to take orders from some "executive secretary."

## Values of Farm Lands

THE ONLY trouble with farm lands is that their titles are not modernized. Farm owners are still trying to sell an old-fashioned piece of paper with red marginal lines all around, a printed form with blank spaces filled in. People do not want to put their money in old-fashioned deeds like that. The way to do is to double the value of the land, "incorporate," then sell lithographed stock certificates with gaudy borders and background and a large gold seal on them. That is what people want to buy nowadays; and if you can get the stock listed on Wall Street, then it will be sold and resold many times daily.

Seriously enough, a great reason why farm lands do not sell readily is that investment money has been diverted into purchase of securities. Formerly local capital, being unfamiliar with stocks and bonds, went into farm mortgages or into buying farm lands. Now that money goes into investment securities. It may easily come to pass that land ownership will be held by corporations with the stock held by the public. Or if the stock market craze should terminate, which seems improbable, then funds might once more be available for land financing.

The depression in farm land values represents not merely a decline in farm income, perhaps not that to any extent at all now; rather a lack of demand for farm land because of conflicting attractions for investment capital.

The Medford Daily News, morning daily, has been purchased by L. A. Banks, one of the prominent fruit men of the Pacific coast, operating both in citrus and in deciduous fruits. Mr. Banks has extensive orchard interests in the Medford country. He plans to continue the present operating staff of the paper.

A Eugene dispatch says that an Oak Ridge garage man drove a wrecking truck over the Willamette Pass last week. What was probably meant was that the truck was a wreck after it made the trip. We were after making that trip last summer.

## Vacation Planning



## BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

A historic marker—

Or monument is to be set up on the south bank of the Calapooya river about two miles east of Brownsville, to designate the spot where stood the Spalding school house, if the exact site can be identified. This was decided at the annual meeting of the pioneers of that section held at Brownsville a few days ago, at which, among other things, the services of the pioneer preacher Job Powell are each year commemorated.

This matter should have had attention many years ago, when the historic building was still standing, or while people were living who could identify the exact location. (More important historic spots, many of them, in Oregon are still unmarked; but there is a movement to correct this neglect.)

The Spalding school house was also used for church services, and the first territorial court of Linn county was held in the building in 1849. It was erected on the donation land claim of Rev. H. H. Spalding. He was the first county school superintendent of Linn county, and Brownsville's first postmaster. He had come to the Willamette valley early in 1848, after the Whitman massacre, which was perpetrated Nov. 29, 1847.

A representative of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions for the Congregational, Dutch Reformed and Presbyterian churches had attended and spoken at the farewell meeting in New York for Jason Lee, starting for the Oregon Country, who with his party arrived on October 6, 1834, at the "old mission" site 10 miles below Salem and commenced erecting the first rude log house there. The Dutch Reformed church at Ilwaco, New York, sent out in 1835 the Rev. Samuel Parker with directions for a preliminary survey of the field before locating a mission in the Oregon Country, in response to the call of the Flathead Indians for the white man's "book of heaven."

By arrangement of the American Board, Rev. Parker met at St. Louis, Dr. Marcus Whitman, who was going out for the Presbyterian church on the same mission. They traveled together in a company of white trappers from St. Louis as far as Green River, where Dr. Whitman turned back to seek reinforcements and Rev. Parker went on and arrived at Fort Vancouver Oct. 15, 1835. He visited the mouth of the Columbia and the Willamette valley spent the winter at Fort Vancouver, went back in the spring to Fort Walla Walla, selected Wallatapu and Chemekane (and perhaps Lapwai) as mission sites, and then returned to the United States by way of Fort Vancouver and Honolulu, reaching Ithaca May 23, 1837, having traveled 28,000 miles, going around "the horn." Dr. Whitman returned to Boston from Green River; appealed successfully to Miss Narcetta Prentiss of Plattsburg, New York, to become his bride; they were married in February, 1836 and with his bride Dr. Whitman set out on his second trip west February 6. At Pittsburgh they met Rev. H. H. Spalding and his bride, on their way from Oneida, New York, as missionaries to the Osaage Indians. At Liberty, Missouri, the four were joined by W. H. Gray, who joined them. At Liberty they bought wagons, pack mules and equipment, and 18 cows. Dr. Whitman succeeded in taking his wagon as far as Fort Boise the first wagon ever taken beyond Fort Hall. Mrs. Whitman and Mrs. Spalding were the first white women to cross the Rocky mountains; the two brides enjoyed one of the longest wedding journeys on record. Arriving at Fort Vancouver, the women were quartered

there and the men left Nov. 3, 1836, and selected for mission stations Wallatapu, six miles from what is now Walla Walla, Lapwai, about 10 miles east of what is now Lewiston, Idaho, and the next year Chemekane, not far from Colville, Wash. The Whitmans took charge at Wallatapu, the Spaldings at Lapwai, and the next year Gray returned to the east, married (the mother of Mrs. Jacob Kamm of Portland) and returned with his bride and Revs. Cushing Eels, A. B. Smith, Elkannah Walker, and their brides, and Mr. Cornelius Rogers. Revs. Eels and Walker settled at Chemekane. Rev. Smith and wife settled at Kamiah temporarily.

The Spalding church at Lapwai is still in existence with a full-blood Indian pastor. Followed hard years of more or less successful work among the Indians. Followed by the famous winter ride of Dr. Whitman across the Rockies in 1842, after receiving messages from his church board brought by the first considerable immigration of settlers of that year. Followed his return with the first (Applegate) wagon train of 1843. Followed, in 1847, the massacre. The Cayuse Indians had on their list for their deadly tomahawks Rev. Spalding, who was on way from Lapwai to Wallatapu. But he was warned by a Catholic priest and escaped. The massacre was followed by the Indian wars of eastern Oregon, Washington and Idaho, lasting between twenty temporary peace agreements till the early sixties, resulting in the abandonment of all missionary efforts by the whites among the Indians, and shutting off the covered wagon trains almost entirely after the one of 1854. A notable exception was that of the Aurora colony train in 1855.

Rev. Spalding, forgetting the fact that his life was saved by the timely warning of a friendly and faithful father of that denomination, became a flaming protagonist of a bitter dispute that raged for years, over the charge that the Catholic priests had been responsible for the Whitman massacre; a chapter in Oregon history that ought to be covered by the mantle of charity and forgiveness. The covered wagon trains of 1843 to 1854, and the ones that followed after the Indian wars, and the coming of Lewis and Clark in 1805, leading to the extending of the arch of the American republic to the Pacific ocean, marked many spots that ought to be, and will be, made shrines by monuments and memorials, and will be; giving to the Pacific northwest values in historic associations that are beyond price.

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**Old Oregon's Yesterdays**  
Town Talks from The Statesman Our Fathers Read

July 2, 1904  
A. Welch of the Citizens' Light and Traction company, told the people of the Liberty district, at a mass meeting there, that he would build a trolley line from Salem through to Liberty and Roseburg if people of that section would put up half the money. A number of Salem business men were present at the meeting.

The city has instituted an injunction suit against H. P. Minto and agents to restrain them from keeping the city from using gravel from the Minto bar.  
A wood-brother robber followed Mrs. William McGowan of Portland, who is visiting at the Poble home, and attempted to snatch her purse from her in broad daylight. Her purse string broke, following the robber, who ran.

## Editors Say:

THE EDITOR AND THE JUDGE

In the current edition of the always interesting Cottage Grove Sentinel there is an editorial by Elbert Bede which must have forced the linotype to reach for additional matrices of the capital letter I. And in a recent edition of the Oregonian there is a communication by our own Judge L. N. Blowers, who is himself quite handy at the typewriter, in which the chief characteristic is again the lavishness with which the alphabetical symbol for the first person singular is sprinkled about. One reading first the one article and then the other and then holding them side by side for comparison becomes conscious of the fact that here in Lane county at least there is a degree of freedom from the Oregon inferior, complex that one hears so much about.

It appears there is an issue between our two prominent Lane county citizens, which seems to be as nearly as one can make out, on the question as to whether Judge Blowers is or is not a candidate for governor. There are indications, too, of a secondary issue as to whether or not Mr. Bede is a potential candidate for secretary of state. Mr. Bede says the judge is conducting an active campaign for governor. The judge says he may or may not become a candidate for governor. He also has said, though not in his latest letter to the Portland daily, that there is a political combination in the making which hopes to promote the Secretary of State Hoos to the gubernatorial chair after a while and put Editor Bede in the office of secretary of state.

Now, laying aside completely any consideration of individuals, individual fitness for the two high offices that Editor Bede and Judge Blowers are accusing each other of aspiring to respectively, would it not be a nice thing to have two members of the state board of control from Lane county at once? We'll say it would. And the state of Oregon as a whole could not fail to benefit by letting its ship of state be captained and first-mated simultaneously by gentlemen from so progressive and altogether fine a county as ours. We will even venture to suggest to Editor Bede and Judge Blowers that, having nominated each other, they hold a joint convention between themselves and make a suitable selection for the office of state treasurer, also from Lane county. Let's give Oregon a government with the right background for once in its life.—Eugene Register.

"SCENIC OR SIGN-IC?"  
What the billboard can do, and is doing to scenery is graphically shown in the Standard Oil Bulletin for May, a copy of which has just reached the desk. The main article in the company's house organ is devoted to this subject, under a heading "Scenic or Sign-ic Highways?"

The article is profusely illustrated, and each picture tells its story of lovely scenes obscured, of trees plastered with signs and posters, of boards occupying such locations that they are certain to travel the "greater part of the traveler's attention."

After referring to the huge sums already expended and to be spent in the future on highways—used to no inconsiderable extent by visiting motorists—the article says:

"To permit the defacement and uglification of these highways is to disgust visitors and drive them away, which certainly is 'bad business.' Any practice which arouses the anger, contempt or resentment of motorists on the great annual pilgrimages from all parts of the country is detrimental to the state at large. Highway advertising, as now conducted in many places, has this effect."

"Scenic or Sign-ic Highways" has to do chiefly with conditions

Nobody would look twice at a man bare to the waist. Nobody ever said a natural man was anything to make you catch your breath. He started the slogan, "It pays to advertise," but maybe he now realizes he "ain't got the goods."

Anyhow we wonder how far the women will have to go before the men profit by their example. At present the men themselves are probably just waiting to see.

## WILD PARTY LOSES JOB FOR TEACHERS

BELLINGHAM, Wash., July 1. (AP)—The three Bellingham normal teachers who were dismissed Friday for alleged participation in a "wild party," today had no statement to make. Miss Helen Dozier had packed her belongings yesterday and could not be found today. Arthur Kolstad dismissed the case with the simple remark that he regarded himself as a "victim of circumstances," adding that "the board had a right to terminate his contract at any time it saw fit." Oscar Withner asserted "the matter is closed so far as I am concerned." All refused to comment on the alleged "wild party." The Bellingham Home, said to have been attended by the three dismissed instructors and a 19 year old girl student.

## No One Named to Follow Hammon

WASHINGTON, July 1. (AP)—With the expiration Saturday of the four-year term of Major General Creed C. Hammon, of Eugene, Oregon, the office of chief of the militia bureau became vacant and the war department gave no indication as to the appointment of a successor. Secretary Good, however, declared the principle of rotating officers in high commands would be observed in the case of the militia bureau.

## Here and There:

Terse comments on Events, Local and Abroad, in the Current News.

IN CHICAGO, a golf-bug bitten broker offered \$10,000 to anyone who would teach him how to get his game below 80. The offer was accepted and after months of grinding the broker turned in a score under 80 three consecutive times. Asked why he made the effort, the broker answered: "To win a \$5 bet."

Espinosa won \$1000 for taking highest honors for professionals at the open golf tournament just completed. But he lost the title to Bobby Jones, the matchless play of Bobby Jones. Espinosa took no joy in receiving the \$1000 cash award. He could only think of his poor game.

The desire to excel is universal. Of course making money is comforting and takes away much of life's hardships. But people who live life to the hilt know the satisfaction of trying out to do a job and then accomplishing it. That's why a golfer pays \$10,000 to win a \$5 bet. That's why Espinosa takes little joy in a \$1000 check; he played "rotten golf."

Travelers describe the exquisite beauty of the Mediterranean as seen from the Rivera in southern

France. The Roosevelt highway running along the coast is a constant Rivera. From Otter Rick one may gaze up and down the coast for 30 to 40 miles on a clear day. Five hundred feet below the never ending pounding of the surface, the waters stretched out on the beach in a white foam ed surf, marvelous to behold. All this beauty available for Oregonians, many of whom live within one hundred miles of the highway. We cannot be too enthusiastic about Oregon and its beauties.

The tourist crop of southern California is worth \$200,000,000 a year; that of the bay district is worth \$150,000,000 members of the state editorial association were told at their Albany banquet Friday by Mr. Cudby, manager of Californians, Inc., and he knows. California has no highways greater than the Roosevelt route; it lacks the mountain streams and the green scenery which abounds in Oregon. But California has undaunted enthusiasm, optimistic, energy. Oregon might well borrow some of California's leadership to put over this state's unparalleled message of progress.

in California, but it applies just as closely to the rest of the Pacific coast. The command and advice it contains is given by a company which saw the light in 1924 when it voluntarily removed its highway signs, numbering many hundreds in all. They have never been renewed, and the company has found their removal to be good business.—Bend Bulletin.

## DON'T BE DAZZLED BY THE LIMELIGHT

Stowaway Arthur Schreiber arrived at the port of New York this morning. Let you have forgotten the name, might we recall, he is the young man who sought fame and fortune by stealing a ride on the "Yellow Bird."

No sirens blew for Arthur, no crowds greeted him. Attired in a fancy-cut suit of Paris clothes, he had his picture taken, and then, under the wing of his father, he silently stole away for the first train leaving for Portland, Maine.

We detest above all other things hitting a man when he is down and shall therefore add nothing to what has already been said concerning Arthur's escapade. He has been punished enough. In fact, we are inclined to think that having to wear and have his picture taken in a suit of fancy-cut French clothes makes his punishment excessive. But before he disappears forever from the public view, we would like to call his example carefully to the attention of all those young and old, male and female, who still suffer from the Schreiber delusion, namely, that publicity is desirable, regardless of its nature.

Arthur got plenty of publicity. For a few hours he was almost as conspicuous in the limelight as the world as Lindy. But observe the denouement.

Hissed in Paris, greeted by pity and silence in New York—Poor Kid. "I wish I hadn't done it—I only want to get home!"

Don't be dazzled by the lure of the limelight. Boys and Girls. It can thrill and elevate the ego, when the conditions are just right, but when they aren't, how it can sear and scald and ruin!—Medford Mail Tribune.

WISE RULING  
Member Clyde B. Atchison, speaking presumably for all the

interstate commerce commission, has issued a rather timely warning to the effect that in fights between railroad systems such as the one now going on between the Northern Lines and the Southern Pacific over the Northern Lines extension into California, the commission pays no attention to mere expressions of opinion elicited from chambers of commerce and other civic organizations. Actual evidence? Yes, he says that is acceptable from anybody, but resolutions which are only so much stage setting for one side or the other—well, the commission has been in business far too long to be greatly excited by them.

Facts and figures can be the only basis for a proper answer to the Northern Lines petition—facts and figures on the future rail business between California and the northwest. That some of the traffic now moving over the Southern Pacific through this gateway and a good deal more through the Ogden gateway would be diverted seems to be admitted. It's for the Northern Lines to prove that the development which they foretell has more than a wish back of it. It's for the I. C. C. to get and study those figures. Oregon is going to have some arguments with all railroad systems on intermediate rates and the cross-state line, but those are other matters.—Eugene Guard.

## Yamhill Bankers Meet at Champoeg

CHAMPOEG, July 1—Over 200 people attended the Yamhill Bankers association picnic held for the directors, employees and families at Champoeg Friday evening. A cafeteria supper was served and afterwards the group met in the patio of the memorial building and enjoyed a band concert by the Newberg band. Mrs. Edith Tozier Wetherhead gave an interesting talk on the history of Champoeg. There was no business, the gathering being for pleasure only. This was the first time the association had ever met for a social time and it was so thoroughly enjoyed that they intend to have more of such gatherings.

Read the Classified Ads.

## Your Executor

### This Institution or an Individual?

THE thoughtful man who names the First National Bank in his Will knows that his affairs will be in the hands of an organization long experienced in the estate problems involved. Familiarity with legal, tax, and investment requirements will save valuable time. Many experienced men can be called upon at any moment. A trained corps will care for detail and clerical work at a minimum cost. We are always here, sickness can not interfere. In fact every contingency is covered to assure your beneficiaries of every helpful service.

We'll gladly explain how our broad facilities can be fitted to your situation exactly

MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM