

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Faver Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe."  
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## Waning Interest in Chautauqua

THE popularity of the big-tent chautauqua has waned and no successful methods of crowding the vacant benches have been devised. The result is a merger of all the leading chautauqua systems in the hope of reducing operating expense and giving unified impetus to a last-stand fight to revive a means of entertainment and instruction once exceedingly popular.

Citizens who have tried to promote interest in chautauqua are discouraged and disgusted with the idea of reviving community support for such entertainment. It takes a strong-arm salesman to get his contract renewed in a majority of the towns where chautauquas now play.

Why this change in public interest? The radio, providing musical entertainment of infinite variety is one outstanding reason why city and country folks will not come to a hot tent and sit on a hard bench for two hours' entertainment by talent often inferior to that heard over the air. The talking movie which can dramatize great plays with the best talent in the nation available takes the keen edge from the production of the road with a handful of players and paucity of scenery.

The business practice of the chautauqua, to, has been partially responsible for its decline. A rigid guarantee of support was required with the result that many business men were called upon to dig down into their pockets to atone for the public's lack of interest and to assure expenses, plus, to the chautauqua management. The sentiment has grown that the chautauqua must follow other commercial enterprises in standing on its merits rather than on the guarantee of a profit from the community's most easily secured signators on the contract.

Moreover, the American public cannot settle down to chautauqua. Twice a day attendance for a week is too regular a diet of entertainment. We like our pleasures in smaller but more frequent quantities. Music wanted? How about tuning in our radio in the cottage at the beach? The family wants a play? All right, we'll drive a score of miles and see one, but go we must and not on a schedule, thank you.

The chautauqua served well in its day to provide entertainment of a high order and in communities which want them, the chautauqua today still brings value received. But where the public by its lack of support indicates that new forms of amusement and entertainment are desired, the chautauqua leaders should accept the verdict and no longer pitch their tents.

## Telling the World

SEE Naples and die, was the catch-phrase of the middle ages. A visit to that lovely city with its surpassing view of sea and shore and mountain, its clear air and blue, blue sky was the lifetime goal of even the humble Italian.

One can well change the old phrase to "See Oregon, and live." For life is renewed in the verdant scenery and by the tonic air of our Oregon. The appeal of this country is not that, seeing it, one may go back home and die content; but rather, visiting Oregon, he must needs abide here and really live.

Beauty that beguiles, roads that entice, mountains that inspire, seascapes that thrill, views that entrance; here they all are in prodigal profusion. Here we may enjoy "just living." One agrees with Wordsworth:

"The world is too much with us,

Getting and spending we lay waste our powers."  
The temptation in Oregon is to forget the world and its cares, to leave off the commercial and to lose one's self in the allurements of nature.

What a paradise this northwestern country is during the summer months. Pastoral valleys flanked by verdant foothills beckoning to high ridges and sharp snow peaks that rim the horizon. Long stretches of sandy beach broken by rocky headland against which old ocean beats in rhythmic futility. Rivers that leap through forest aisles and over stony riffles. Here there is healing for the heart-wound; here there is firing for the spirit; here there is sustenance for every mood. Men must move; but they must meditate. They must mingle; but they must seek solitude in season. Where then may one find such variety in nature to meet the need of the vagrant spirit as in the wonder land of Oregon and Washington.

Proud though we be of the output of our farms and orchards and fields and factories and forests. Prouder may we be of that nurture of fine manhood and womanhood which this charmed land supplies to all who seek re-creation in its woods and mountains or along its streams and shores.

## A Fitting Appointment

GOVERNOR Patterson declared he would seek a man for public service commissioner "who will represent the interests of the people of the entire state and do it fairly."

F. J. Miller of Albany, named to the commission and subsequently elected to its chairmanship, fills this high standard. He is well versed in affairs coming before the commission, having served from 1893 to 1910 as secretary of the old railroad commission and subsequently he was appointed a member of that board. He has had other public service of trust as a member of the state normal school board of regents.

There are vexing questions constantly referred to the commission. Equity of railroad tariff and public utility schedules demands keen insight into the facts of amount of money invested and proper expense charges for operation. The public's interest lies in that difficult-to-attain field, where investors are granted a fair return with the most reasonable charge possible afforded to the citizens who use these utilities.

Integrity, mental acumen, courageous alliance with the truth are demanded of the public service commissioner. Mr. Miller has a position of major importance to fulfill; his record and his personality have given the public confidence that he can meet the trust.

The pope probably realizes by this time that he is ruler of a state. It is reported that there are hundreds of applications for every job which the new papal state will have. Observate Romano announces that all the positions have been filled. One thing, though, his holiness need not fear the loss of any votes from the disappointed office-seekers.

The fate of the Chicago Tribune's 'Untin' Bowler means we'll not send our plane over to Japan for added circulation for a few days, at least.

Nevada had decidedly more divorces than marriages last year. We term this an unfavorable "balance of trade."

## Still Reigning



## BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Speaking of historic markers—short stay, we commenced our return, and had ridden about an hour and a half, when night overtook us, a circumstance that appeared to be as unlooked for as it was unexpected by our guide, who therefore soon lost the road and got completely bewildered.

We kept riding about in the dark for about four hours, with the hope of discovering a light in some of the houses, which we expected surrounded us. In this dilemma, our horses began to fag, and left us the uncomfortable anticipation of passing the night in the woods. At this moment, when we had almost given up all other thoughts, we heard the welcome bark of a dog, and steering our course in that direction, soon perceived a light, which led us to a small house, the inmates of which we took by surprise.

The good man had that day killed a large pig, which, added to himself and family and their unexpected guests, so filled his domicile that there was scarcely room to stir. . . . We now made a fresh start, and at half-past 10 reached the house of Joseph Gervais, one of the principal settlers, where we found our tents pitched and a good supper awaiting us, to which we all did justice.

Gervais did not fail to contribute his share of good things to our supper, which repaid us for all troubles. . . . After breakfast (Sunday, Nov. 21, 1834), we again set out, though the weather was disagreeably wet, and arrived at the Catholic church at 10 a.m., where we found all the Canadians assembled, with a display of horses that would have done credit to a much more ancient colony. After service, the Rev. Mr. Blanchard regaled us with an excellent dinner. In the meantime, some of the most respectable of the settlers waited upon Sir George, tendering him their respects, and offering their services and assistance for the continuance of our tour.

"The mansion of the Rev. Jason Lee" was the first dwelling house built in what is now Salem, still standing, at 960 Broadway. The visitor was Sir George Simpson, governor of the Hudson's Bay company, on his famous trip around the world. The guide who got his party lost after dark in the vicinity of where the Wheatland ferry now is, was Laframboise, the famous guide of old Oregon in the days before the covered wagons came. Allan went on to write that Father Blanchard took Governor Simpson in his light cart, from the St. Paul church to the "sand encampment," near old Champoug, where the party arrived Monday morning at 4, and, as Allan said: "We now resumed our seats once more in the boat, with the addition of Mr. Blanchard. At 8 o'clock we reached the falls (Oregon City), and while the men were making the portage, we breakfasted, and afterwards paid a visit to the American (Methodist) missionaries, whom we found very comfortably situated."

There is a movement for the marking of historic spots in the old Oregon Country. In New York there is an association, founded by Ezra Meeker, which proposes to mark all the historic spots along the Old Oregon Trail. It proposes to restore the Whitman mission. It would mark the graves of the 20,000 pioneers who lost their lives on the old trail, on their way to the promised land, if even one of the 20,000 could be definitely located and identified. Only one, so far, has ever been; that of a Mormon woman. (But that is another and a later story.)

Listen to this idyllic excerpt from "A Gallop Through the Willamette," written in 1841, by Geo. T. Allan, one of the chief employees of The Hudson's Bay company, who was afterwards in charge of the operations of that great organization in Hawaii—much abbreviated, for lack of space: "At 2 o'clock (Nov. 20, 1841), we entered upon a beautiful and extensive plain, in which the Catholic church is the most conspicuous object. Here we paid a short visit to the Rev. Mr. Blanchard, and then continued our route through woods and plains, studded with stately oaks. About 4 o'clock p.m. we reached the mansion of the Rev. Jason Lee, head of the Methodist mission, situated in a very beautiful spot, where he has lately erected a sawmill—this gentleman's house being the most remote in the settlement. After a very

Claims totaling \$1149.45 have been paid to Statesman readers by the North American Accident Insurance Co. in less than one year. These claims were paid on the \$1.00 policy issued to Statesman readers.

## SCOTT'S MILLS CLUB ENJOYS MEETING

SCOTT'S MILLS, July 15—The R. N. A. club met at the home of Mrs. Nellie Robinson, Friday afternoon. After the business meeting and social hour, refreshments were served by the hostess, 13 members and one visitor being present.

Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Magee of Riekey visited relatives at Crooked Finger, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Levi Kellis and family left for Bridge, Ore., Sunday after visiting relatives here for several days. Mr. Kellis is employed in a saw mill there.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Woodford of St. Helens, Ore., visited relatives here over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Broughton of Salem visited relatives here over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Dixon and family, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Herigstad and Chris Heristad spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Merle Scott at Culp Creek, Ore.

W. F. Geren, who has been employed in the Silverton cannery, spent the week-end at home.

Miss Grace, who is attending

normal summer school at Monmouth was home over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Hartman and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hartman spent the week-end at Bristol-bush.

Mrs. and Mrs. Roy Prather of St. Helens, Ore., visited Mrs. Prather's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Woodford over the week-end.

## SCOTT'S MILLS LODGE HONORS MEMBERS

SCOTT'S MILLS, July 15—Martia Dale and E. S. Lutren were honored Saturday night when the local Odd Fellows lodge presented them each with a 25 year jewel.

John Kellis received his the week before. The jewels were presented by P. G. M. Brother Hobson of Stayton, who has been a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge for over 50 years. P. G. M. Fred Mendl of Portland gave the principal address of the evening.

Other visitors were Joseph Schwelzer, grand warden of the encampment, and P. G. M. Bro. Andrew of Portland, W. A. Weddie of Stayton, William Yarnell and A. Burns of Salem.

The following officers were also installed after which ice cream and cake were served. W. T. Hoge, N. G.; Inwal, Edland, V. G.; Bert Hubbard, sec.; Clarence Thomas, financial secretary; Albert Rich, treasurer; Charles Slaughter, Warden; Elmer Dozittle, conductor; Robert Seamon, inspector; John Gamache, outside guardian; George Haynes, R. S. N. G.; Chas. Swartout, L. S. N. G.; J. Seaman, L. S. V. G.; I. J. Smith, R. S. S.; F. B. Lamb, S. S.; J. M. Groshong, chaplain.

## Cashier Taken As Fund Found Much Depleted

PORTSMOUTH, Va., July 15—(AP)—George Larkin, cashier of the closed State Bank of Portsmouth, was arrested here today on a warrant sworn out by M. H. Bristow, state bank examiner, charging defalcation of the bank's funds.

Bristow said the books of the bank showed an apparent shortage of \$120,000. The bank was closed Wednesday on advice of the state bank examiner. Larkin was released on bond.

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## NEGRO THREATENED BY NEBRASKA MOB

NORTH PLATTE, Neb., July 15.—(AP)—Special police guarded the negro district of this city tonight while regular forces continued their vigilance against mob formations as the result of the slaying of a policeman today by a negro, whom officers sought to arrest.

All negroes were ordered to leave town. They began their exit this afternoon, on foot, by horse and buggy, automobile and train. A mob, formed at the house of Louis Seelman, 35, negro slayer of slayer of Policeman Ed Green, retained its formation despite efforts of police to break it up. Threats of violence were heard as members of the mob shouted orders to the negroes to leave town at once.

The shooting grew out of an attempt by Green to arrest Seelman who had previously been ordered to leave town in lieu of paying a \$100 fine for beating Ada Miller, went to Ogallala but returned this morning, with whom he lived. He was notified by police and another officer went to arrest him. Green was shot with a sawed off shotgun as he entered Seelman's room.

## Lindbergh Lauds Two Endurance Flyers For Act

SAN FRANCISCO, July 15.—(AP)—Full of praise for the ability of the pilots of the record-breaking bi-plane, Angeleno, Col. Charles A. Lindbergh, resting with his bride at the Hillsborough home of Thomas B. Eastland, hailed their performance as promising great significance to the development of aviation.

"Their performance is of great value to commercial aviation," he said, "not only was their work remarkable from the standpoint of human endurance, but it also demonstrated the extraordinary reliability of present day airplane motors."

## Woman's Corpse Found in River Near Portland

PORTLAND, Ore., July 15.—(AP)—The body of a woman, estimated by coroner's deputies to have been in the water for seven months, was found in the Willamette river here Saturday night. They said the woman when alive probably weighed about 125 pounds and was about five feet four inches tall. Nothing which would lead to discovery of her identity was found. A gold crown on a right hand tooth in the lower jaw was noted. Search of missing persons records here shed no light on the possible identity of the river victim.

## Swedish Aviator Plans Trip Soon

OTTAWA, Ont., July 15.—(AP)—The department of marine and fisheries today received a message saying Captain Albin Ahrensberg, Swedish aviator attempting a flight from Stockholm to New York, would "probably" take off "this afternoon or tonight" from Iviguit, Greenland, on the last leg of his journey.

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