

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe."
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When Claim Agents Convene

EVEN claim agents should have a holiday. Nimble fellows they are, as quick as a traffic officer to get on a job. They see folk at their worst, too, bruised and bleeding in body oftentimes; and nearly always in angry mood. So claim agents need a vacation, need a convention with speeches and banquets and motor trips, all the more so if the expenses are taken care of by company vouchers. There are enough claim agents on the Pacific coast to have a convention all their own. That is quite too bad, for otherwise they might get to go to Atlantic City or perhaps Miami or New York. As it is they had to content themselves this year with meeting in Portland.

The news of the claim agents' convention arouses our reportorial instincts. What gobs of news and of feature stuff an alert reporter could pick up on the fringes of a claim agents' convention. The speeches of course would be drab enough, dire punishment for the conscientious claim agent who thought he had to sit through them. The real stuff would be on the outside, in the hotel lobbies where the agents from San Francisco and Seattle, from Stockton and Spokane would exchange their experiences. What tall, tall yarns they could tell, and all true!—Remember the case of the old woman who sued for fifty thousand, claiming she was left a helpless invalid by a bus accident, with supporting medical testimony and all. And then how a nosy claim agent found her doing the family ironing or something of the sort?

Or the case of the small boy knocked deaf and dumb when a street car hit his bicycle, who was dumb as a mouse all through the trial but cursed like a trooper when the company lawyer came at him on his "blind side" and caught him by surprise.

What a string these agents could tell, for their case books are as human as a doctor's fee book. Deacons and town pillars, women and grey-haired men all willing to perjure themselves to "stick the company" and get away with big damages before dishonorable jurors. The big burden now falls not on the street car companies so much as on companies writing automobile insurance. They are the ones who have to hire batteries of claim adjusters and lawyers to keep the greedy pack from making a sprained wrist into a broken back.

Claim agents for railroads and trolley lines used to be a wily bunch. They could beat a lawyer to a hospital bed every time and get a name on the dotted line along with the first groans from the waking up from the ether. They used to be as slippery, by reputation at least, as a sly attorney. Probably they have reformed now and don't try to rob accident victims.

Lodges and grangers and dixie cup salesmen and tire repairmen and bankers and traffic police all have to have their conventions; but we venture none of them can unravel human interest tales like the claim agents. They have left Portland and gone back home now, back to the desk, the telephone and the asphalt, back to the company runabout and the old maid stenographer, ready to tackle another year's routine of wrecks and smashes and damage suits.

A New Triumvirate

CAESAR, Pompey and Crassus made up the first triumvirate which ruled the Roman empire on the basis of force and craft.

The succession of M. Briand to the premiership of France introduces a new triumvirate to the world, a triumvirate of forward-looking, liberal-minded statesmen. Hoover in the United States, MacDonald in England, Briand in France. Never before in our day has there been such a political set-up among the great powers of earth. The times are big with portent of vast achievement in the growth of international accord and the suppression of international hate.

The recent brightening of the prospect for Anglo-American understanding on the question of naval armaments through conversations between President Hoover and Premier MacDonald should now receive wider significance through the rise to power of M. Briand, leading French advocate of policies of friendliness. It was Briand who first proposed to Secretary Kellogg the treaty for the outlawry of war between France and the United States, which Mr. Kellogg with magnificent prescience exalted into a world-wide pact. Briand too has been active in the peaceful resolution of post-war difficulties with Germany and other European powers.

Poincare's great contribution to France since the war was his success in solving the financial problems of the republic. Called back to power in 1926 when the franc seemed destined to go the way of the mark, he swiftly launched movements which stayed its decline, renewed its value and finally stabilized the franc in international exchange. French thrift quickly bolstered up the legislative measures of Poincare and now France is the most prosperous country in Europe.

The last great work of Poincare was to secure the ratification of the Mellon-Berenger agreement on France's debt to America. In the face of determined opposition Poincare put the measure through the house of deputies, and later the bill easily passed the senate. This done, the great leader of France yielded to advice of physicians and resigned his ministry. It is well. The task which called him back to office was accomplished. Poincare, a bitter-ender, a politician of the old school, was not the executive to respond to the new atmosphere in international relations. Briand is better, for France, and particularly for the world.

A new triumvirate, ruling not by force or guile, or intrigue; but by sound judgment and sincere humanitarianism. Opportunity now beckons to this old strife-ridden world. Seized rightly, progress toward rational peace may come by strides with seven-league boots. Lost, then hope is dead for at least a generation.

Planning New Highways

THE federal highway authorities are approving as a federal aid project a new road on the east side of the Willamette between Portland and Oregon City. That road would fill a real and growing need, for the east side roads between these points are inferior and inadequate. But it would be essentially a local road. It would not solve the problem of traffic into the Willamette Valley for it would merely dump it at the Oregon City bottleneck.

The super-highway that ought to be built should avoid Oregon City with its narrow streets and high hills. It should point direct from Portland toward Salem probably by Wilsonville crossing of the river. Looking ahead it will not be a

Another Industry Is Tottering

THAT FRONT PAGE NEWS HAS CAUSED A TERRIBLE SLUMP IN MY STOCK!



great many years till increased traffic will necessitate greatly expanded highway facilities.

Add to List of Camping Needs

Eel's hips for outdoor sleeping. Shock absorbers for that first plunge into the surf. Painless plasters for foot blisters. More but better back seat caution. Lighter and thicker blankets.

Anna Pennypacker, daughter of a former governor of Pennsylvania, was arrested with 55 others for holding a radical meeting in Philadelphia. Anita Whitney, noted California suffragette and communist, ran afoul of the law again when she aided in a protest against those awful "Chinese imperialists" who were contending against the virtuous Soviets. The women have to have emotional outlets. If it isn't in babies or divorces or bridge or clubs, then it may be in any sort of fantastic radicalism. Anna and Anita will probably pose as martyrs to their "cause" whatever it is. The best way to handle these flag-waving females is to let them wave and rave.

BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

How many people remember—

The time when Oregon had no asylum for the insane, and what a struggle went on for years to secure the one now in Salem?

In the session of the Oregon legislature of 1880, commencing on the second Monday in September (the sessions have opened the second Monday in January, beginning with 1885), Marion county had six members of the lower house, Tilmon Ford of Salem, long a leading attorney of this city, was a prominent member of that branch, and T. T. Geer, afterwards governor, was the youngest member. Z. F. Moody of The Dalles, afterwards governor, was the speaker of the house. The big question for the session was a proposition to provide for the construction of an asylum for the insane at the state capital. Speaker Moody was in favor of this, and Ford and Geer were the outstanding Marion members in charge of the fight. It was some fight.

Until then, all the insane and feeble minded had been cared for by Drs. Hawthorne and Loryea at East Portland—this had been going on under the contract system for years, and all efforts to break up that system and met with failure. The contractors had amassed fortunes. They naturally wanted to hold on. The bill for the state asylum was prepared and introduced by Tilmon Ford, chairman of the Marion delegation. The lobby against the bill was a powerful one. The chances at the opening of the session were against breaking the monopoly which furnished such rich pabulum for its beneficiaries. The lobby against the bill was well organized; also it was well financed; there were rumors of a big "sack" in its possession.

The friends of the measure called a caucus, and met every night. Each member in favor of the bill attempted to line up as many friends as possible. Mr. Geer related in his "Fifty Years in Oregon" that he attempted to secure and keep in line Terry Tuttle and J. W. Blevins, friends of his from his old home in Union county. They at once agreed to the justness of the bill, and to its promise of economy. But Dunham Wright was in the senate from Union county, and after a little while he saw danger of defeat to several of his pet measures favoring his section of the state, because his two house colleagues were attending the asylum measure caucus each night; and loving Salem not less for its prospect of getting several hundred thousand dollars of state money for the construction of asylum buildings, but loving his own constituents more, he tried to draw off Tuttle and Blevins.

Geer argued with his old

friends that if they deserted the just cause there would be those who would "put two and two together and make four—maybe five or six," in accusing them of selling out. The two friends stuck. Mr. Geer moved, a little later, to have Mr. Tuttle serve as chairman of the caucus, in the "involuntary" absence of the regular chairman—thus identifying him more prominently with the friends of the asylum bill. The effect of the ruse held Tuttle and Blevins closer. They were above reproach in character—but they were being subjected to "third degree" methods by the lobby against the bill.

There was another major ruse, of which Speaker Moody was "guilty." A. J. Lawrence of Baker county was opposed to the asylum bill. He was opposed to anything else that had a prospect of success. He frankly said he wanted to make a record for preventing as many new laws as possible. He wore a flannel shirt with the collar unfastened, thus showing the effect of the independence of combs and brushes for an indefinite time—and his love of the "flowing bowl" and his familiarity with the famous "house bill 104" of the old days was often in evidence. (Be it known to the uninitiated (if any) of that period that house bill 104 referred to a jug of whiskey always full and supplied with a tin cup.) But Lawrence had native ability, and he fought with strokes below the belt or otherwise, regardless of rules.

The final days of the session were at hand. Lawrence expected a protracted debate when the asylum bill came to the last struggle. He had "ginned up" a little more than usual for the coming fray. But the leaders in charge of the measure had taken counsel. They had agreed to force a vote immediately after dinner, and without any discussion. They knew they had enough votes to win, if they could avoid flank movements that might delay the issue and cut off the chances of success in the final hectic hours before adjournment. They knew Lawrence was tuned up with all sorts of schemes and motions to kill time.

When Speaker Moody ordered the clerk, after brief period to call the roll of the house, according to the formulated program of the leaders, Lawrence, who had been leaning forward and twirling his spectacles, arose and addressed the chair, but Mr. Moody quietly said: "Will the gentleman from Baker please take the chair." Lawrence was taken by surprise. He saw the ruse—or did he? Any way, he went to the rostrum and took the gavel from Speaker Moody's hand, and as he did so, he said: "Gentlemen, the question is, 'Shall the bill pass?' Those who are in favor of the bill will answer 'aye' as your 'noes' are called and those opposed will answer 'no' as your 'ayes' are called."

The clerk will call the roll. The tongue of Lawrence was "tangled." It was five minutes before there was sufficient decorum restored for the roll to be called in an orderly manner—

But the result was a victory, with just one vote (that of the speaker) to spare.

A good deal of water has run under the bridge since then. The state hospital (insane asylum) at Salem had yesterday 1895 inmates, 1138 men and 757 women, and 255 employees. The one at Pendleton has about 900 inmates, and 100 to 125 employees. The institution for the feeble minded here has now 845 inmates and 102 employees. That foots up 4,122 people supported by or on the payrolls of the state. What a "plum" that would have been "up to now," in case the lobbies of the contractors had been as successful since as they were up to the legislative session of 1880!

In the case of every subject taken up by the Bits man, much must be left unsaid, for want of time and space—especially the latter. Will the various friends who phone or write or see the Bits man please take note of this. These historic sketches are merely a labor of love. The Bits man gets and expects nothing for them, nor wants anything excepting the satisfaction of making some slight contributions in the preservation of useful and interesting history. However, any actual new facts, written down, or communicated in any other way, will be very welcome.

Old Oregon's Yesterdays

Town Talks from The Statesman Our Fathers Read

July 30, 1904

John Pemberton was elected temporary chairman and L. M. Gilbert temporary secretary when Rosedale citizens met at the school house there to organize an improvement league. Good wagon roads are one of the particular benefits the league will work toward.

W. A. Liston returned from a seven weeks' business visit in Klamath and Lake counties.

The Krebs hop company has just completed construction of a large oven and bakery on its hop ranch near Brooks.

Mr. and Mrs. Werner Breyman and Mrs. William Brown will leave this morning for a few weeks' visit at Seaside.

Anna Pennypacker To Sue Policeman

PHILADELPHIA, July 29.—(AP).—After a hearing before Police Magistrate Ferdinand Zweig, Miss Anna Pennypacker, daughter of the late Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker, and 29 others arrested last night after a meeting of the Workers International Relief, were discharged Saturday.

Miss Pennypacker said at the conclusion of the hearing that the question of bringing charges of false arrest against the police will be taken up at a meeting of the American Civil Liberties Union.

FORLORN LOVER SUICIDE CHICAGO, July 29.—(AP).—Dependent over two shattered romances, James Wallace Pondell, prominent art photographer, detailed his unhappiness in a seven-page letter, drank a quantity of poison and shot himself in the right temple in his studio Saturday.

COMMISSIONERS COURT

The following is the official publication of the record of claims before the Marion county commissioners court for the February term, 1929, with the amount allowed, bills continued, etc., according to the records in the office of the county clerk.

GENERAL FUND	
Baldwin, Mrs. Lorinda, relief	10.00
Barruff, Lena, relief	20.00
Wengert, Wm., relief for Dave Bernier	8.00
Robson, Mary, relief for Martha Billeu	15.00
Boles, Chas. P., relief	15.00
Boys and Girls Aid society relief	25.00
Brinegar, Elizabeth, relief	20.00
Carson, C. Carl, relief	12.00
Carson, Mrs. Mable C., relief	10.00
Cave, Mrs. Maggie, relief	10.00
Churchill, Mrs. Belle, relief	10.00
Condon, Ed, relief	10.00
DeHaven, Levi, relief	12.50
Dill, Mrs. Ida M., relief	10.00
Dodge, Ulyssa Ellen, relief	10.00
Dunn, Johanna, relief	17.50
Englehart, Mrs. Anna, relief	10.00
Fleischman, Leonard, relief for self and wife	15.00
Fowler, John, relief for self and daughter	15.00
Furman, Florence, relief for self and husband	20.00
Golia, Lizette, relief	12.00
Golden, Mrs. Ada L., relief	17.50
Haggard, Della, relief	32.50
West, Mrs. A. L., relief for Robt. G. Hall	35.00
Hardwick, Charles, relief	10.00
Harjer, J. H., relief	8.00
Hart, Grace A., relief	25.00
Hasvold, Alex, relief	15.00
Hegarty, Mrs. Hazel, relief	10.00
Henderson, Mrs. Mabel, relief	8.00
Hepburn, Mrs. Ella, relief	10.00
Hoeschel, Gerhard, relief	10.00
Horrom, Wm. F., relief	8.00
Clark, F. E., relief for N. L. Houghton	15.00
Kephart, Sarah E., relief for self and husband	25.00
Terharr, Wm., relief for Katherine Kopf	15.00
Galbraith, J. C., relief for Mr. and Mrs. Prosper La Chapelle	20.00
Martin, Eve, relief	10.00
Shaw, Mrs. Della M., relief for Harry Meeker	15.00
Miran, Antonio, relief	20.00
Morgan, W. W., relief	10.00
Odman, Mrs. Kirsti, relief	20.00
Paquette, Mrs. Louisa, relief for Mrs. Paschal Paquette and Nora Piquard	20.00
Parris, Wm. H., relief for Pavelok, Antonio, relief for Borrevik, B. A., relief for Olea Pedersen	15.00
Pugh, Anna, relief	18.00
Reinbrecht, August, relief	2.50
Reinbrecht, Mrs. Annie, relief	15.00
Clark, Frank, relief for Catherine L. Rhoads	15.00
Robinson, Mrs. Jennie M., relief	10.00
Sagsvold, Henry L., relief	10.00
Sanberg, Mrs. Elsie, relief	5.00
Slyter, Mrs. W. R., relief	15.00
Smith, Mrs. Wesley, relief	20.00
Stripling, Hulda, relief	8.00
Syphert, Murtis M., relief	10.00
Tinner, Mrs. Walter, relief	25.00
Tupper, S. L., relief	20.00
Wagner, William J. Sr., relief	15.00
Wheeler, Mrs. Anna L., relief	15.00
Wilbanks, Hattie, relief	30.00
Williams, Alice Bertha, relief	20.00
Zuercher, Alma, relief	15.00
Sheriff's Office	
Burkhart, S. O., deputy sheriff	124.70
Barber, W. T., deputy sheriff	124.70
Richardson, W., deputy sheriff	109.70
Haskins, W. W., deputy	23.94
Wrightman, F. T., tax deputy	114.70
Butler, S. J., tax deputy	109.70
Clerk's Office	
Ward, C. C., dep. co. clerk	115.00
Lamkin, W. S., dep. co. clerk	110.00
Wilson, J. R., dep. co. clerk	110.00
Ward, J. H., dep. co. clerk	100.00
Recorder's Office	
Lenhart, Eva C., deputy recorder	100.00
Beecroft, Myrtle, deputy recorder	100.00
French, Louise M., stenographer	90.00
Sunberg, Ava C., stenographer	90.00
Treasurer's Office	
Richardson, W. Y., dep. treas.	115.00
Assessor's Office	
Shelton, R., dep. assessor	115.00
Jones, W. A., dep. assessor	110.00
Roberts, Eva, clerk	100.00
Ackerman, Almer, clerk	100.00
School Supt's Office	
Reld, Cora E., assistant	100.00
Reld, Cora E., trustee officer	15.00
Fox, William W., supervisor	120.00
Health Officer's Office	
Douglas, V. A., co. health officer	166.66
Sinks, H. C., co. sanitary officer	75.00
McAlpine, M. C., nurse	150.00
Court House Account	
Wyatt, A. H., janitor	70.00
Hill, W. W., janitor	70.00
Hobson, L., janitor	70.00
Kirsch, Teresa, elevator operator	10.50
Crum, Margaret, elevator operator	10.50
District Atty's Office	
Page, Lyle J., dep. dist. atty	100.00
Hickox, Carlota, stenographer	50.00
Miscellaneous Accounts	
Smith, W., Carlton, co. physician	65.00
Morehouse, W. G., co. veterinarian	33.60
White, Nona, probation officer	109.70
Jones, J. F., sealer of wts. & meas.	43.87
Co. Court & Com's. Acct.	
Siegmund, J. C., Co. judge	150.00
Smith, J. E., Sal. & exps., co. comr.	139.40

Porter, J. H., sal. & exps., co. comr.	134.30
Y. M. C. A., Salem, Oregon, male force employ. bu.	50.00
Miscellaneous Acct.	
Henningsen, P. J., bounty	1.50
McClellan, Paul T., bounty	43.20
Boyer, U. G., co. clerk, cash adv. for bounty	97.85
Girod, Arthur, relief for Mrs. L. Humphrey	15.00
Girod, Arthur, relief for Richards, E. J., relief for Laura Robinson	15.00
Boyer, U. G., co. clerk, cash adv. for bounty	10.00
Gescher, Herbert, bounty	99.70
Reinbrecht, August, relief	9.80
Fuller, Andrew, bounty	6.00
McKay, Douglas, relief for M. L. Windust	8.90
Gilles, Math, bounty	25.00
Registration & Elections Acct.	1.00
Messing, A. E., maps	12.00
Rodgers Paper Co., envelopes	33.65
Sheriff's Office	
Barber, W. T., use of car, etc.	87.30
Bower, O. D., use of car, etc.	33.30
Capital City Bindery, binding	22.75
Ellipt Printing House, printing	34.00
Moore, Ross E. Co., legal blanks	157.10
Rahn-McWhorter Paper Co., making books	42.00
Salem Stationery Store, repairing dater	1.00
Schaur, Philip, tax clerk	89.00
Thielsen, Will, tax clerk	93.75
Clerk's Office	
Niles, E. M., Clerk	87.50
Rahn-McWhorter Paper Co., paper	7.33
Recorder's Office	
Brooks, Mildred R., cash adv. for stamps	2.00
Treasurer's Office	
Nicholson, James H., insurance premiums	.75
Assessor's Office	
Jones, A. W., use of car	24.00
Steelhammer, O. A., cash adv. for stamps	2.00
Conklin, I., field deputy	100.00
Jones, J. T., field deputy	80.00
Preres, P. G., field deputy	135.00
Terry, E. F., field deputy	215.00
Surveyor's Office	
Portland Blue Print Co., blue print cloth	8.06
Typewriter Exchange, repairing typewriter	7.50
School Supt's Office	
Fox, W. W., traveling exp.	50.00
Fulkerson, Mary L., traveling exp.	50.00
Fulkerson, Mary L., cash adv. for stamps	20.00
Hubbs, Geo. W., exps. co. educt. bd. meet.	2.00
Jefferson Review, publ. notice	1.00
Kraps, The J. J. Co., printing	3.50
McMorris, Janet, clerk	36.00
Mt. Angel News, publ. notice	1.40
Owre, P. W., exps. attend. meeting	2.00
Reld, Cora E., conduct teacher exam.	12.00
Rowland Printing Co., printing	7.50
Scott, Fred L., exp. attend. meeting	2.00
Selson, Grace, grading exams.	9.00
Smalley, G. W., janitor	6.00
District Attorney's Office	
Glass & Puhomme Co., book	4.57
Griffith, L. F. M. D., examination	10.00
Fruit Inspector's Account	
Van Trump, S. H. Co., horticulturist	131.25
Health Officer's Acct.	
Atlas Book Store, stamp pad	.75
Central Pharmacy, needle, etc.	3.50
Commercial Book Store, carbon	2.50
Douglas, V. A., M. D., traveling exps.	20.84
McAlpine, Margaret, traveling exps.	33.34
Marion Co. Health Unit, main of office	50.00
Patton Bros., book	4.00

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United States National Bank

(Continued on Page 6.)