The Oregon Statesman

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

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Hard Times in Florida

THIRTY-THREE banks have closed their doors in the state of Florida in recent months. The epidemic of bank failures there reflects not only business depression in the southern state but a wave of hysteria which makes depositors suspicious of all banks. Florida is paying the price and a heavy one it is for the high carnival which the drunken speculators held in Florida real estate a few years ago. The high pressure boys from Los Angeles and New York descended on Miami and Palm Beach, Daytona and Coral Gables and gambled with the high stakes of human fortune in the balance. For them it was the quick clean-up. Boosting price quotations on lots and lands with no regard for values but solely with the idea of selling out to some big sucker and taking the profits. A pyramid of paper—contracts, escrows, options, notes, mortagages, certain to collapse and the certainty made complete with the fierce hurricane from the West Indies.

The past two years have been years of retrenchment in Florida, years of writing off the froth and getting down to sea level again. They have been hard years, hard for banks, merchants, property-owners and all. As though the state had not done penance enough, now comes the plague of the Mediterranean fruit fly, dread enemy of fruits, to find lodgment in the fine citrus orchards of Florida. For years our ports have been guarded to keep out this horticultural foe. In other lands it has wrought much havoc on deciduous as well as citrus fruits and on vegetables too.

This Mediterranean fruit fly is smaller and more showy than our common house fly. The female uses the sharp end of her body to bore a hole in the skin of fruits, then she lays her eggs in this hole. An individual fly may lay up to 800 eggs in her lifetime. The eggs hatch into minute larvae in from two to four days, and these larvae or tiny grubs burrow into the fruit, feeding on the pulp. Decay sets in and the fruit falls to the ground. When full grown the larvae in the worm stage leave the fruit and lodge under grass or leaves. Later the fly emerges from the pupa and completes the life cycle.

The state of Florida and the U. S. department of agriculture are bending every effort to confine the ravages of the insect to the counties where it has been discovered. Thousands of dollars have been spent in quarantine and in measures of eradication. But the damage to Florida has been severe. Other states have clamped on rigid quarantines which destroys the market for their citrus fruits. This helps bring disaster to orchardists and other business interests in Florida. Growers cannot liquidate their debts, bank assets become frozen, banks fail and the "life-cycle" of boom and depression, of prosperity and hard times is completed.

The Gurgle of a Veteran

FROM the eminence of his hundredth birthday John R. Vorhees, Tammany grand sachem and president of the board of elections, made a statement to satisfy the requests of pressing reporters. The old man tried to make it just a usual day, got down a half-hour early, in fact, to show he was fit. The Tammany braves made it a real day, though, and showered him with congratulations, gifts and everything. So the old man wept, as well he might, though it was the first time in his fifty years of public service. Perhaps it was his emotions and not his century-old judgment which dictated this statement:

"I'm in favor of freedom, freedom for everybody. Although I drink rum very seldom, I believe in freedom to drink if I want to.

"Not since McClellan's campaign has there been an interesting election in this city. It takes more than an automobile horn and some red fire to make a campaign.

"I'm for women—strong, but I get mad at them once in a while because they don't use common sense.

"I would like to see New York city a state in its own right."

Freedom to drink, of course, is the plank of the loyal son of Tammany. But who would put McClellan's campaign as the most interesting for New York City? Surely Vorhees must have forgotten the stirring days of the Hayes-Tilden election and the threatened uprising in New York. Cleveland's elections were not without moment in New York, especially his defeat of Blaine in 1884. Bryan's defeat created some stir particularly in Wall Street where the temples of finance were on shaky footing till McKinley and the full dinner pail were safely victorious.

But when it comes to making New York city a state, Vorhees was really foolish. Not that Tammany would like to have it a state in its own right. But there are plenty of New Yorkers who seem to prefer having New York city a country in its own right. They know Europe better than the U. S. A. and seem to have scant sympathy with Indianapolis and San Antonio.

It must be great to be 100 and still holding a public office. We know a good many people who would live to be 150 if they thought they could get a public office some time before they died. However, the comments of a centenarian, though interesting, seem to make little impression on the ruling generation.

The Will of Allah

BY THE will of Allah twenty thousand men and boys lie dead in Dangar, a city in the interior of China. By the will of Allah two thousand Moslems have gained paradise. Allah is Allah; great is Allah.

So it is told. The story comes from an American missionary, Findley Andrews, who penetrated the famine areas of northern China and returned with this tale of torture. Down from the mountains swept the Moslem horde. Swept with the fury of religious fanaticism they stormed the city gates, raged through the streets, shouting "kill the men, kill every male from 17 to 70." They did a thorough job of it, as the stiff bodies of 20,000 Chinamen testify. Why such butchery? "It is the will of Allah that if a Moslem kill ten Chinese he will surely go to Paradise."

What if ten Chinese go to hell? Ah, that is nothing, if only one Moslem can thereby enjoy forever the fruits of paradise. What if ten Chinese women are left widows and many, many children left fatherless? Nothing, if a Moslem attains his eternal "salvation."

But twenty thousand are not very many compared with 200,000 killed in Kansu province in the Moslem rebellion of last year. And in 1877 a similar outbreak is said to have cost 14,000,000 lives. How many souls of those Moslem murderers, whose bones have mixed their chemical elements with the earth that mothered them, now languish in the arms of heavenly houris?

The will of Allah, the will of Jah, the will of God. How strangely men and women have interpreted the so-called commands of Divine Providence! To wipe out the last remnant of an unbelieving tribe, to exterminate the "heathen", to destroy and cut off those of alien faith, such has been the "will of God" ever since ignorant minds mixed bigotry with zeal. In the name of religion cities have been burned and countries laid desolate; all that some fanatics might carry out "the will of God." Even Christianity, a religion of love, whose founder rebuked a sword-swinging partisan, has left a bloody trail of persecution and oppression.

Twenty thousand dead Chinamen, two thousand "saved" Moslems. Such is the score of one night in this new age of enlightenment.

"The will of Allah."

Quite A Temptation

BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

On the price of flax—

And answering S. B. Mills of Aumsville, the grower who wrote to the Capital Journal saying the farmers should have more money for that product, because the state flax plant showed a profit last year of $97,000.

The prices are now high, compared with what can be realized for other field crops. The net profits of the growers will be largely increased hereafter, through the use of the J. W. S. improved seed. This seed was used this year on about 150 acres. Perhaps 1000 acres, or more, will be in this seed next year, and 5000 acres or more in 1931, and the whole crop in 1932 and thereafter.

If the state should pay higher prices, it would make it impossible to get independent threshing, retting and scutching plants established at various points throughout the valley. There must be a profit for such plants, or they cannot run—and money cannot be secured for building them. And it takes a lot of money, for even a small plant, because the farmers must be paid for their flax a year, on the average, before the primary plant converting it to commercial uses and selling it can get all or even a large part of its money out what is the finished product to the grower.

The state's prices are $40 a ton for clean flax 36 inches or over; $35 for flax 30 to 36 inches long; $30 for flax 27 to 30 inches long, and $20 for mowed short flax. The $40 flax is preferred, because it makes the highest priced fiber, worth twice as much as the lowest priced fiber, and still more compared with some of the upholstering tow that must be made of the short mowed flax.

The man arguing for more money to the grower makes statements leading to the infer that the farmer ought to have si or a much larger share of the profits, leaving men engaged in other industries to help in maintaining the expenses of the prison.

Well, if the prison made no considerable profits in the flax industry, that industry could not be developed at all. And by its development, even on the present ba is, up to 3000 acres last year, 500 acres this year, and 67 acres next year, that much fa land has been brought under crop that is the most profita of all field crops grown here the prices paid the farmers. it the farmer could not gro ter than a $35 flax, have a higher payin he could grow on his or were devoted to wheat or barley or hay.

But with the J. W. S. good land, four to six flax to the acre will be almost a here, and this will bonanza crop. Also more profit for th because of the larg fiber content of grown from the J. W. S. With 10,000 acres seed flax, to be g or at least by 193

tiary will be made self supporting through that and its other industries.

But every taxpayer will benefit from this. No taxpayer will ever again be burdened with any part of the maintenance expenses of the Oregon penitentiary. Besides, there will be wages for all the inmates, and the prison will become a reformatory—giving greater indirect benefits to the public than the direct ones in the saving of tax money for maintenance.

The $97,000 profit realized last year from the state flax industry came partly from the salvaging of a lot of old stock that had been kept on hand for lack of ingenuity in working it up and disposing of it. But the plant should show a greater profit this year, and make a mounting net showing every year. It will have to, if the farmer is to get his money for his increased acreage of flax, and if money is to be had for many additions to the storage and handling facilities, that will be necessary to take care of mounting tonnage.

Also, that will be necessary in order to finally have the revolving fund supply the money for all the running expenses of the institution. This will be done without any more appropriations from the legislature for the revolving fund, if the present program shall go on undisturbed.

But there will first have to be an accumulation to make sure of enough money in the revolv fund to pay at least a for 10,000 acres of flax. And that delivered flax cro will bring to the from 4 al of about $250,000. grow m will be far above a So dollars annually that will mi the farmers each year when plans now formulated shall all been worked out.

Also, in some way or another, penitentiary must get a new with at least 1500 acres of nd. This will all be needed. A rge part will be needed every unshiny day of the 12 months on hich to dry the retted flax.

The legislature of 1927 put $200,000 into the revolving fund, for the benefit of the state flax industry. No such sum was ever better invested by the state. It was expected that a like sum would be required at the hands of the 1929 session. But not a cent was asked. And not a cent will be asked from the 1931 session.

The state flax industry is much more than living up to the expectations of those who projected and promoted it. The Bits man ought to know something about this. It is not necessary to explain to any one who has been in this part of Oregon for very long.

It would be the height of folly to hamper in any way the program that is doing and promising so much for the prison, its inmates and the taxpayers and the people of Oregon generally. It would be like killing the goose that lays the golden eggs.

Old Oregon's Yesterdays

Town Talks from The Statesman Our Fathers Read

August 1, 1904

A flagman now appears at the Southern Pacific railway crossing on Comercial street to warn people of approaching trains. A city ordinance passed following a crash at that point in which a local woman was killed makes it necessary for the railroad to station a flagman there.

Frank Hamilton, John Daugherty and Paul Stege left for a three weeks' hunting and fishing trip at Tillamook, the group driving over and camping enroute.

Dr. D. D. Keeler has as a guest at his home John Henry Douglas of Newberg and a prominent minister of the Society of Friends.

Mrs. A. J. Giesy returned to Portland after a visit of several weeks with her mother, Mrs. J. J. Murphy.

Editors Say:

PATTERSON TO SUCCEED HIMSELF

John Kelley, political editor of the Oregonian, smells a plot among Democratic circles to prevent Bert Haney from running for governor next year. If so, plot must have been hatched Mr. Haney's friends for he wou have no more show for govern next year than he would have king of Siam. From the co ment we hear, not only in community but in Portland other parts of the state, Gove Patterson is very highly re ed by the rank and file and are not only willing to se succeed himself, but for th part believe he is entitled Republican nomination opposition. The impres to us to be quite gen ceptional- governor has been has had the ly good executive measures in- courage to veto enditures and he volving hu the affairs of the has con business-like manner stat effort to be spectacu- books, they say in some ters, don't count for much, but they do in Mr. Patterson's case. Even those who are not particularly friendly politically to the govrenor are reported to say that when he arises to make a speech or performs any other public function, "Darned if he doesn't look like a governor anyway." His tall figure, his fine appearance, his snow white haid do give him a look of distinction without a doubt and part of his has made There have ders in any His appoint versally goo eye solely state rather up of a poli self. The realize it made more if he had snare the term. It man has tion to reco turning hi There seem there shou the case and no dis ception in minds of clans who themselves hear in var there is no who can be tion and party who tion.—Cor

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At the Salem wh ceived John Malheur co isn't a bad is, nothing has an inc people's 60 burglar ho, includ he was se

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he lives up to the official activities. He official mistakes. en no official blunf his state bureaus. ents have been uni and made with an the welfare of the than for the building ical machine for him ople sense that and nd he has thereby otes for himself than eliberately set out to office for a second customary when ads good in his posi nize his service by re for a second time. to be no reason why d be an exception in Governor Patterson, osition to make an ex his case, except in the few ambitious politi would like the job From all the talk we ious parts of the state, body in his own party at him for the nomina body in the opposition has a chance of elec allis Gazette-Times.

E PEN FOR LIFE

state penitentiary in re they have just re ny Tuel for life from nty, they say Johnny young fellow. That vicious about him. He rable desire for other operty. He admitted les in Oregon and Ida g two in Baker, when tenced in Vale. t was a small part of . This is his fifth or to the prison. Besides as been in the reforma s a deserter in the army. areer for a man of 31. en quite busy, probably m a record of some were worth anything. re we to say? Nothing t "Johnny" as they call e big house, is right elongs. He seems to be e very few incurable the legislators had in they provided the life habitual law-breakers. Tuel ever reforms he t out, but the chances er will. You can reform ybody easier than a ef who steals not from from instinct.—Baker

E OF DEMAGOGUES

u know why legislative lief" is economically un d a device of fools and nes? Let us tell you in ell chosen words, if you ecause it tries to write in cultural history and com taxpayers to make good rtage that may result. You mprovements in facilities thods have had nothing to farm depression? Well, k it up. Fifty years ago and team handled 40 acres in Nebraska; today a man machine will handle 120 though the man can't hand harvest alone. In Kansas arvest hands who used to the prairies in vast num are almost extinct. The nes are doing their work. st every farmer in the coun ho is on his job is produc more stuff than the farmer 0 or 30 years ago according his acreage. You say the er ought to profit by cheap production and more of it? at may sound reasonable; but u must consider that you said little while ago that the trouble rises from our surplus. It does, and the surpluses are an incident of improved methods. Not all is lost, however. The world is changing, and changing for the better, and if the farmer is a victim of progress it must be remembered that he is not the first good man who fell aroul of misfortune, nor does it follow that the devil will take him because he is at the moment the hindmost. Better management and better machinery will eventually do for him what it has done for others.—Yakima Republic.

LITTLE CHANCE OF A TARIFF BLUNDER

The change in political sentiment regarding higher tariff rates is another example of the force of an aroused public opinion when aided by executive leadership.

A few months ago every political observer in Washington declared that the rates in the House tariff bill would be increased by the Senate. No informed person doubts for a moment that this was the accepted plan.

But the House bill had no sooner been completed than President Hoover called in a group of the Senate leaders and frankly told them that unless the rates were materially reduced, the measure would never receive his signature.

This action was supported by clever publicity on the part of the low tariff bloc, the country being flooded with facts and figures regarding the House bill.

• • •

As a result the tariff situation in Washington has been completely transformed almost over night. Everyone agrees that the rates will be reduced radically by the Senate. Seeing the handwriting on the wall, Senator Smoot, champion of a prohibitive tariff, has retired from the fight entirely, the leadership being handed over to Senator Reed of Pennsylvania, distinguished as a great "compromiser."

Nothing short of a revolution has been brought about in Congress, thanks to President Hoover and the force of public opinion.

A similar situation marked the opening of the Taft administration. But, while public opinion was aroused, President Taft refused to assume aggressive leadership one way or the other.

As a result President Hoover promises to avoid the political disaster, which tariff changes traditionally cause, thanks to the fact that he has the vision and the courage to take a definite stand on every problem, the proper solution of which affects the material or moral welfare of the American people.

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Hawkins & Roberts Handle Sheep and Grow Crops That Make Farm Lands Pay Well

They Demonstrate This on 3600 to 4000 Acres In Polk County, in the Independence and Rickreall Districts . . . Have Added Alfalfa

(Held over from last Sunday's Slogan Page.)

Hawkins & Roberts are not primarily sheep breeders. They are brokers and money lenders on mortgages, and owners of office and hotel buildings and other city properties. But they are also owners of farms, which they devote to the handling of sheep principally, along with some beef cattle, hogs, etc., etc.

They are pioneers in following their slogan, "sheep over clover and clover over sheep." The individual heads of the big concern are Harry Hawkins and Thomas A. Roberts (called by his familiars Bob Roberts.) They believe the raising of clover is one of the best means of maintaining soil fertility—this especially with the growing of clover pastured by sheep up to the time of seeding. Then a good seed crop of clover. They believe some sheep and some clover are good for practically every farm in the valley. This makes up a profitable form of "two story" farming that contributes many indirect benefits.

Have 2000 Breeding Ewes

Hawkins & Roberts keep about 2000 head of breeding ewes, on 3600 to 4000 acres of land, in two projects, one near Independence and the other north of Rickreall, Polk county. But they often have many more than 2000 sheep. They are just now turning off 1000 head of fat lambs for Armour & Co., which they bought and conditioned for that packing concern. They have besides on hand about 2000 other fat lambs.

Their breeding ewes are of mixed breeds. Besides these, thny have 150 head of pure bred Lincoln ewes, to raise lambs to supply to eastern Oregon Rambouillette and Merino breeders. This cross produces a fine fleece of wool, and also a sheep that is easy to herd; and herding conditions prevail in eastern Oregon. The concern is constantly buying and selling sheep, and other live stock.

Going Into Alfalfa

They are going into alfalfa; adding this to their clover growing. They have 150 acres of old alfalfa, besides one field of 100 acres of new alfalfa and rape, sown last spring, that is 10 inches high now, and looks fine and luxuriant.

They will wind up this fall with their 2000 breeding ewes and their Lincoln pure breds. And they are planning to feed at least 1000 head of ewes this winter on kround alfalfa, to eke out pasture feeding. They do this because they want early lambs, coming about January first, and they want their ewes to be in prime condition — better than they can expect on pasture alone. They fed 500 ewes this way last winter, and they lost only one sheep, and got aver 100 per cent of increase in lambs, ready to make high priced early lamb chops for the market.

Beef and Pork, Too

They took on a couple of cars of Hereford calves last fall, wintered them over on hay and pasture, and now have some beautiful beeves for a later market.

They grow a considerable acreage of corn, and they will soon be in the market for a lot of feeders, to finish off proper sized porkers for the high prices of the packing houses.

A couple of years ago, they took on 1800 acres of thin lambs ofr their clover pastures.

Profit Not Primary

While Hawkins & Roberts like to make money they are not in the business of farming and live stock breedig and handling money solely for what they can get out of it. They want to prove that money can be made in the proper use of farming lands in this section. And thus they prove it. They have an overseer for this department, working out of their Salem office, and they have a good man in charge of each project, who has an interest outside of his bare salary. Thus they maintain a sort of partnership that guarantees high class and careful attention to details. They themselves supply the capital and he land and he opportunity for the demonstrations they carry on. Thus they do not just believe money can be made out of good farms in this section. They know it, because they do it. And the way is open for such profitable operations on many thousands of acres here that their owners find it hard to get taxes on of. Not because the opportunities are not here, but because they do not grasp them.

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