

The Oregon Statesman

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

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.
CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, SHELTON F. SACKETT, Publishers
CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor-Manager
SHELTON F. SACKETT, Managing Editor

Member of the Associated Press
The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper.

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

Eastern Advertising Representatives:
Ford-Parsons-Stecher, Inc., New York, 271 Madison Ave.;
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The New "Blue Book"

THERE is one textbook the state prints which meets with high favor among the people of the state. That is the "Oregon Blue Book," advance copies of which are just being sent out by Hal Hoss, secretary of state, who is by law the compiler of the book. This book is a mine of information about the state, its history, its government, its "vital" statistics. The cover is jazzed up a bit this time with a drawing by Andrew Vincent, Salem artist, printed in colors. A half-tone of the capitol is used as frontispiece. Then the book contains a map of the state in colors and words and music of "Oregon, My Oregon."

In sending the book out Secretary Hoss sends along a blue slip asking for corrections of errors if any are found for the final edition. As he had Elbert Bede assisting on the job, what chance would there be for any errors? We found an extra "i" in a word set in six-point; but not much else. We made sure the capital was still left in Salem and that the constitution still contained the 18th amendment; so the book is undoubtedly correct.

In studying the book we spent a little time over the tables of salaries paid to county officers. What a wide variation there is, apparently with neither rhyme nor reason! Salaries seem to depend not on the responsibilities of the office nor yet on the wealth of the counties but on the pull of the court house gangs and legislators in putting through increases. None of them is too high. The sin is the other way, in asking men and women to discharge responsibilities of office at such meagre stipends. The Marion county showing is as shameful as any. Second county in the state in population, third in assessed valuation, we rate away down in the compensation we allow our public servants. Take county judges. Coos pays \$2400, Clatsop \$2400, Lane and Klamath the same, Benton \$1800 and Marion \$1800. For commissioners the per diem ranges from \$3.00 to \$7.00 a day, with Marion as usual crowding the bottom at \$4.00. Lane pays its commissioners a salary of \$2000 a year and Klamath \$1500.

For county clerks Marion pays \$1800. Here are some of the others: Benton \$2100, Morrow \$2000, Lane \$2400, Clatsop \$2600. For assessor: Marion \$1800, Coos \$2000, Umatilla \$2400. Sheriff: Marion \$2000, Benton \$2400, Baker and Douglas \$2500, Crook \$2200. County school superintendent: Marion \$1500, Lane \$2000, Sherman \$2400.

Yamhill is about the cheapest of the lot, however. It pays its county judge only \$1200 and its assessor \$1200. There are strange inconsistencies within the counties. For instance, Baker pays its sheriff \$2500 and its clerk \$1500. Sherman pays its judge \$450 and its county superintendent \$2400.

These figures afford convincing argument of the necessity of revising the salary law providing for some classification of the counties, giving a general law for the state, and not letting the legislature change the individual salaries as at present. The next cry-baby taxpayer who complains about the "high" salaries paid at the court house in this county ought to be quietly chloroformed.

That is enough about that.

We see it takes nine pages of six-point to list all the boards and commissions and their duties. Even a printer can see the economy in boiling them down to a page and a half, say in eight-point. Prof. Horner gets the Longview bridge in his sketch of Oregon history. The political writers will find the abstract of votes at the last primary handy for reference. There is a fine mortuary record of all the deceased initiative and referendum measures as well as a list of the ones that carried. The people started votes on tax bills back in 1906. There is a list of all the newspapers published in the state, and the regulations on flag etiquette are printed. (We must remember that).

The motto chosen by the founding fathers in territorial days is more appropriate now than then: "She flies with her own wings."

Not to be critical at all, we might call attention to some doubtful rhetoric. In page 25, speaking of the capitol this appears: "and is yet in such splendid condition that repairs are just being completed to strengthen stairways and lobbies." Again on page 26, the diction is in question in: "A border of Caroline Testout roses adds a subtle touch of charm and beauty." We never observed anything subtle about the prolific Testout. On page 9 "pediatry" has an "o" in place of an "e".

The "Blue Book" is the bible of the Oregon editor. We welcome this revised version, and give it a place in the top drawer along with the telephone directory and the list of delinquent accounts.

The Race to the Sea

A STUDY of the map of Oregon is a most engaging and profitable pastime. It is specially worth while in examining roads in connection with the "race to the sea" of the inland cities. The population chain lies along the line of the Southern Pacific through western Oregon. The effort of the cities on this line is to get quick outlet to the sea, mainly for recreation. Highway development, after the construction of the main arteries, has been toward linking the inland cities with ocean resorts.

Look at the map. Here is Portland, due east of Tillamook Bay some 65 miles. To get to the ocean it has had to go down the Columbia to Seaside, 125 miles; or around through McMinnville, about 102 miles to Neskowin. The Salmon river cut-off will bring it to about 88 miles from the beaches. This cut-off will also bring Salem to a distance of 65 miles from the seashore. Eventually Portland will probably have a direct road through Forest Grove to the Tillamook beaches.

Salem is due east of Taft, about 48 miles in an air line. With the completion of the Salmon river cut-off and the improvement of the Dallas cut-off it can have little complaint about an easy and short road to the sea. Corvallis and Albany are splendidly taken care of in the Newport and Alsea highways, giving easy access to the Yaquina and Waldport-Yachats beaches. Eugene has to go to Waldport if it wants good roads all the way; but the road down the Siuslaw will get under construction before long (it is hoped) and give the Eugene people approach to the ocean at Florence.

Roseburg goes very comfortably over to Bandon. Grants Pass and Medford, lacking a road down the Rogue, must go either north to Bandon or south to Crescent City.

The coast country is feeling the stimulus from the growing traffic from the inland cities. Real estate developments are under way all along the Roosevelt highway, particularly those within easy access from any of the Willamette valley

The Back Wash



cities. Yachats and Waldport have had many new homes added to house the summer colonies there. Between Newport and Neskowin new projects have been opened up and the development in two years has been amazing. At Depoe bay, only two years old, most of the desirable lots have been sold and many houses have been built. Nelscott and Neskowin are other thriving beach resorts, planned principally for summer homes rather than "Coney Islands."

This "race for the sea" is significant, not just for road building and real estate development, but of the change in living habits that may come with such ready access to the seashore. The tonic winds of the sea, the clean beach sands, the scenery, the outdoor life, all will affect the minds or the bodies of those Oregonians whose permanent homes are inland, but who make temporary abodes along the shore.

BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Oregon's governor's mansion—

In the early fifties, again: The reader has been informed that it was on the donation claim of John P. Gaines, who was chief executive from August 18, 1850, to May 16, 1853, and that the main part of the house as it was then still standing, about seven miles south of Salem.

The second donation claim south of that of Governor Gaines was the one of Thomson Ward. He was called "General" Ward by the early settlers. The Bits man cannot find out how he got the title; it may be he got it like some of the Kentucky "colonels," by being a "gentleman and a judge of good whiskey." Any way, he was called General Ward by every one. Perhaps some reader can tell why. It is believed that the wife of Governor Gaines was the daughter of General Ward. The Wards as well as the Gaines family had negro slaves. One of them was named Jack, and his mother was also a slave in the Ward family. During the war of the states the Ward slaves ran away, and were protected by a neighbor. There is perhaps a lot of history in this incident, that may come to light.

Jo Lane was the first governor of Oregon territory, appointed by President Polk, a democrat. Lane arrived at Oregon City, March 2, 1849, and proclaimed the territorial government the next day. He was elected delegate in congress from the territory, his service beginning June 2, 1851, and kept on being elected until 1859, when he and Delazon Smith were chosen the first U. S. senators from the newly admitted state.

Zachary Taylor, "Old Rough and Ready," hero of the Mexican war, had been elected the 12th president of the United States, taking office March 4, 1849, and he was a whig, and appointed Gaines, of his party, to succeed Lane. One of the high authorities says Fillmore appointed Gaines, but this could not be true, though Taylor died 16 months to a day after becoming chief executive, that is, July 4, 1850, and Vice President Millard Fillmore became president. But Taylor had appointed Gaines early in his administration, in July, 1850, and took office here August 18. In the interim, Kintzing Pritchett, who had been Governor Lane's secretary, acted as ex officio governor. Lane had resigned upon being elected delegate of the territory in congress.

Democratic enemies of Gaines in Oregon, including The Statesman, then owned and edited by A. Bush, accused him of coming in a government ship (the store ship "Supply") "around the horn" with his family and furniture, and drawing salary all the time, while Lane, being removed, drew no pay but performed the labor of the office. Two daughters of Gaines, 17 and 19, died on the voyage of yellow fever. The arrival of Governor Gaines was ac-

claimed with the firing of cannon and speeches and a public dinner.

Gaines was a native of Virginia; removed to Boone county, Kentucky, in his youth. Volunteered in the war of 1812. Represented Boone county in the state legislature several terms, was in congress from 1847 to 1849. Served as major in the Kentucky cavalry and in the Mexican war until taken prisoner at Encarnacion. Was elected to congress while in the Mexican prison, from which he escaped and joined the army, and served till the end of the war. He died on his farm seven miles south of Salem in December, 1857. Mrs. Gaines carried on there, and it is remembered that, one hard winter in the sixties, she lost a lot of fine stock.

President Fillmore, whig, was out and President Pierce, democrat in, and one of the first acts of the new president was to appoint Jo Lane governor of Oregon again, and he served three days, May 16 to May 19, 1853, so as to elbow Governor Gaines out, and to have George L. Curry, secretary, act as ex officio governor, till the new governor, John W. Davis, could get to Oregon. Lane had been reelected delegate in congress. Curry served from May 19 to December 2, 1853, when Governor Davis arrived and took over the office, having been appointed by President Pierce.

Governor Davis arrived very opportunely at Salem, just as the legislature was about to convene. He brought with him the \$40,000 appropriated by congress for the erection of a capitol and penitentiary, which the legislature had been waiting to apply to those purposes. The territorial capitol was built at Salem and the penitentiary at Portland. As has been before stated, the capitol was burned down, after which the state rented offices down town for 20 years. The penitentiary became a livery barn and afterwards a factory.

Governor Davis was a native of Pennsylvania, where he studied medicine, as Bishop Simpson had done in Indiana, and each began practice. Davis moved to Indiana, was a member of the state legislature and speaker of the house, served in congress three terms, and was speaker of the lower branch, and was twice chairman of the national democratic convention, and was commissioner to China. He died in 1859, in Indiana. He resigned August 1, 1854, and George L. Curry again became ex officio governor, and was appointed governor and served in that office the last five years of the territory, when John Whiteaker was elected the first governor of the state.

President Taylor offered the office of governor of the Oregon territory to Abraham Lincoln, in 1849, when upon his refusal to accept he named John P. Gaines. Mrs. Lincoln did not want to go to Oregon. History would have been written in much different words had he accepted; the his-

tory of Oregon, perhaps, and the history of the United States.

Why did John W. Davis resign the office of governor of Oregon? "There was no fault to find with him, except that he was imported from the east," said Bancroft. In resigning, after only eight months of service, he gave as a reason his domestic affairs. He was tendered a parting dinner at Salem, which was declined, but departed with the intention of returning and becoming a resident of Oregon. He died, however, soon after reaching his Indiana home.

"Although a good man, and a democrat, he was advised to resign, that Curry might be appointed governor, which was done in November following," Lane wrote in his autobiography, according to Bancroft, adding that Curry was a favorite of that portion of the democratic party known as the Salem clique, then dominated by The Statesman, which was in those days known as "the Oregon bible." He followed The Statesman's lead, and it defended him in his measures, which were really its own," added Bancroft.

However, Bancroft gave George L. Curry the credit of being an able and outstanding man, who had risen by hard work from a lowly estate. That historian concluded a biographic sketch of him with these words: "His private life was without reproach, and his habits those of a man of letters. He lived to see Oregon pass safely through the trials of her probationary period to be a thriving state."

There is something to add, in another issue, about this period of Oregon history.

Old Oregon's Yesterdays

Town Talks from The Statesman Our Fathers Read

YESTERDAYS
August 30, 1904
Oregon people could send prizes in pound packages to the World's fair at St. Louis and gain considerable advantageous advertising through them. Gideon Steiner said on his return to Salem from a trip through the east and south.

Postmaster Hirsch has been notified that nine of the ten carriers on rural routes out of Salem will receive the full salary allowed by the recent act of congress, \$720 per year.

A. A. McCormick was elected to fill the unexpired vacancy in the Young Men's Republican club occasioned by the removal from the city of C. F. Elgin, treasurer.

Charles A. Gray of the Salem park board has been Prince looking after construction of the new \$22,000 county high school there for which he received contract.

POTIVY, France (AP)—Central Brittany, one of the last strongholds of tradition, is in the process of being electrified, and soon will be assured of a plentiful supply of current. A dam across the river Blavet, ten miles above Pontivy has been completed.

666

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CHICHESTERS PILLS
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HAZEL GREEN PARTY FINE

Christian Endeavor Society
Has Interesting Meeting and Party

HAZEL GREEN, Aug. 29.—The Hazel Green Intermediate Christian Endeavor were recently entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Pearl Wood. A short business session was held after which out door games were played the first hour, then all went inside for a flower hunt and to work out puzzles indicating names of various flowers. Ice cream and cake were served, the guests assembling around small tables placed on the lawn, which was lighted and beautifully decorated with Japanese lanterns. Josephine and Lucille Wood and Bonnie and Darlin acting as waitresses.

Present were Leonard and Nora Rutherford, Charlotte and Leroy Van Cleave, Guy Allen and Glen Looney, Pearl and Nelson Darkin, Iola, Cecil and Ernest Luckey, Helen Sargent, Imogene Wood and Miss Luckey, the pastor.

The subject of the Intermediate Christian Endeavor lesson Sunday evening being "Traveling with our Missionaries," a departure from the ordinary was featured by having five of the endeavorers impersonate five missionaries now on the field.

These were introduced to the society and as their work was located on the map each gave a brief account of work being done by the missionary they represented. Glen Looney led the meeting.

OFFICIALS SPURRED TO PROTECT JEWS

WASHINGTON Aug. 29.—(AP)—Notice of the massacres in Jerusalem was taken today in both administrative and congressional circles, spurring from the former a move to protect American lives. While the state department took steps to safeguard American citizens in the vicinity of the disturbance, Senator Borah, chairman of the senate foreign relations committee, announced that he had accepted an invitation to speak tomorrow night at a mass meeting in Madison Square Garden to protest against the massacre of Jews by Arabs.

The state department instructed the American consulate at Beirut, Syria, to send immediately a member of the staff to Jerusalem to assist American Consul Knabenshue there. Knabenshue had asked the department for a consulate officer to send to Tel Aviv for the protection of the large American colony at that place.

Perrydale Farmer Hurt by Combine Is Improving
PERRYDALE, August 29.—H. G. Keyt is resting easy at the Dallas hospital after falling beneath his combine a week ago. He was working on the rear of the machine when he lost his balance. No one saw him fall and the machine was run up on his hip before he was missed. His arm was dislocated, his hip and pelvic bone broken. He also suffered severe bruises on the head and body. He has been in great pain until the last few days, but is resting better now. The entire community join in wishing him a speedy recovery.

Dallas Boy Goes To New Mexico Military School

DALLAS, August 29.—Robert Hayter is leaving Dallas Thursday for Roswell, New Mexico, where he will enter the New Mexico Military Institute for the coming school term. He will go through Salt Lake City and have a day stop over there, and then through Pueblo and a Trinidad, Colorado, to Amarillo, Texas and on to Roswell. Robert graduated from the Dallas high school this year and is the older son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Hayter.

Arizona Family Visit at Keizer

KEIZER, Aug. 29.—James Wilson and wife, formerly of Keizer, were callers at the William Blake home Tuesday afternoon. On account of Mr. Wilson's health they were compelled to change climate. They are now located in Phoenix, Arizona where Mr. Wilson is practicing chiropody. Mrs. Wilson's many friends in Keizer will be pleased to learn of her complete recovery from a serious auto accident some time ago.

SILVERTON DENTIST MOVING TO EUGENE

SILVERTON, August 29.—Dr. A. D. Woodmansee, who has had a dentist office on West Main street for the past four years, has sold his practice to Dr. Harry Johnson of Portland. Dr. Johnson has already begun practice here, although Dr. Woodmansee will be here for sometime yet. Dr. and Mrs. Woodmansee will leave for Eugene between the 10th and 15th of September. Dr. Woodmansee will be in the office of Dr. Bogan there and will specialize in extraction.

Silverton regrets losing Dr. and Mrs. Woodmansee. Both have been prominent in club and social circles.

Recent claims totaling \$1315.70 have been paid to holders of Oregon Statesman, North American Accident Insurance Co., policies.

THE PRICE SHOE CO.

Dr. L. J. WILLIAMS, Chiropractist, in attendance

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