

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe."
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Utilities Change Policy

THE announcement in Seattle that the power interests will raise no war fund to use in fighting a grange bill to allow power districts to take over and operate power plants will come as something of a shock to those who have observed Washington politics in the past, or in fact the political activities of utilities in any of the states. Just as in 1926 the Oregon utilities spent a large sum of money defeating the proposed power bill, so in Washington in 1924, the utilities had a big war-chest which they used in defeating the Bone bill which would have promoted public ownership of utilities there. The new announcement will be a great shock to the baiters and the come-on boys, the political strap-hangers, the publicity experts, the "fixers" and the usual retinue of shadowy flitters about a political headquarters. Perhaps it will be a shock to the newspapers who have grown fat on lush advertising of power companies fighting initiatives.

We rather think the utilities have chosen a wiser course this year. They are calling an end to the bear-baiting. For years they have been mulched by framers of anti-utility legislation. They have been gouged by a horde of retainers and lobbyists. For a long time we have contended that the better course for the utilities to follow would be to cut out their expensive politico-legal departments and publicity bureaus and "public relations" divisions and walk straight in the fear of God and without fear of the devils with itching palms. What arouses suspicion in the public mind is the bobbing up of power company fixers everywhere. They are ubiquitous, whether it is an irrigation conference, a legislature, or a party caucus. True the utilities have been badgered and baited so long they hardly know which way to turn; but our private opinion is they would gain in public esteem by turning off the propaganda spigot, firing a lot of ex-officers and party hacks and tending strictly to business.

There is room of course for giving out real news from big industries, but most of the hand-outs seldom qualify.

The railroads no longer maintain the expensive political organizations they did prior to 1906, and are all the better for it. The utilities would thrive as well if they gutted many of the admittedly political positions on their payrolls. We can appreciate the attitude of the Washington utilities who feel like making no fight; at any rate they don't propose to be robbed by the pirate crew of political hi-jackers from newspapers to ward-healers who would suck blood for a dollar. If the public is hell-bent for public ownership, then it may only be delayed, not stopped by a big war-chest.

Want Through Train Service

WEST side cities from Corvallis to Portland are organizing to demand from the Southern Pacific one of the California trains to be routed each way over the west side road. The red electric which had serviced that portion of the valley since 1914 were taken off recently owing to heavy operating losses and replaced by buses and by one slow main train from Portland to Corvallis. Railroad officials protest routing trains that way because it would mean rebuilding the tracks to carry the weight of the heavy locomotives and cars.

Lack of proper rail service will undoubtedly work a hardship on the west side cities, and they are fully justified in waging a battle for their place in the railroad sun. The main line can easily spare one of the numerous trains now going over it from Eugene to Portland. There might be some loss of time, but even that might be made up on some other portion of the road between Portland and San Francisco.

There is this argument which the west siders might use, and that is that improving the west side road bed may supply the S. P. with a "double track" between Portland and Eugene which would save possible future double-tracking of the main line, and would permit speeding up train service through having the additional track. Distance and grades would be a factor, but by a tie-in at Junction City there would be little difference in mileage.

All of Oregon needs to go ahead. It can't go ahead if an important section of it is denied proper rail service. The Southern Pacific which enjoys virtually non-competitive traffic from those cities on the west side, ought to provide them with adequate passenger train service.

Railroads as Scenery

ILWACO and other north beach communities are opposing the petition for abandonment of the Megler-Nahcotta line of railroad. They will be joined in their petition surely by that great company of beachcombers from the cities who have derived a real thrill from the toy train on the toy track that operates just above the high tide mark on the Washington beaches. It is a narrow gauge road, with a tiny engine and tiny coaches hatched on behind. Its whistle is a narrow-gauge whistle, not a deep-throated bass like a main line limited.

The road and the train are part of the scenery now. For buses and trucks have made them unnecessary as a utility. But the natives want the train kept on so they will not feel altogether removed from civilization, and the beach visitors of summer want it kept that they may watch it run when the tide is full and they can't dig clams. How strange it would be to go to Seaview and not hear that shrill whistle and see a toy engine pushing back the brush and running up on two little rails for all the world like the track of an amusement park concession!

Aimee is now in a squabble over the money-bags. That was the rock on which Zion split, Zion City, we mean, as promoted by John Alexander Dowle, pioneer of the religious mind-breakers. All goes well until sharing the proceeds of the business disturbs the leaders. Aimee will have to call on another lawyer, or perhaps a judge, to make sure that she hangs on to the treasury of the lighthouse sect. The new charges will scarcely bother her. She has manipulated things before with marked skill.

The Telegram asserts that the longest novel in the world is "Revelations of a Wife." We might concede that that looks like a winner, but we bet our 1929 straw hat that "Revelations of Another Man's Wife" would be longer.

The corpse in the hearse the hijackers shot at must have been quite dead. Otherwise he would have risen up and said: "Stop here. Ain't this hell!"

Impartial Observers at Gastonia Trial



The members of the "Labor" jury, reading the evidence presented at the trial of the seven men charged with the murder of Chief of Police O. F. Adorlich. The avowed purpose of this jury is to pass upon whether the regular jury acts justly. Both juries will render a "verdict" at the end of the trial. Two negroes are members of this jury, which was constituted by the Trade Union Unity Congress at Cleveland. Left to right, front row—Hubert Carroll, Ida Simons, Daisy MacDonald, E. F. Cosh, Wes Williams, Charles Summey. Back row—Taylor Shytle, Charles Frank, Joe Golden, Sol Harper, Leo Hoffbauer and Henry Buckley.

BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

A jarring note:

There was this kind of a note creeping into the meeting of the Salem chamber of commerce at its noon meeting of last Monday, concerning the proposition to begin the dotting of the Willamette valley with flax threshing and scutching plants.

The idea was advanced that communities where such projects are being thought of should go slow; that they should have expert advice, etc. Of course they should go slow. They have gone slow. They have waited for over 50 years after it was known as fine fibre flax can be grown in the Willamette valley as can be produced in any other section of the world; and a finer quality than is possible in any other district but one, and that the Lys valley of Belgium.

Now it is a well known fact that our first quality flax fiber, being turned out by the state flax plant, is the highest quality to be had in any market. And it is known by the experts that we can produce in this valley several hundred thousand acres of such flax; that it is possible to produce in western Oregon more flax fiber than is now used in the entire world.

And some 600 farmers in the Salem district know this quality of flax can be produced now, at the present established prices of the state flax plant at a profit that is greater on the average than can be realized from any other field crop.

Then why counsel caution? Or at least why counsel over-caution? Why wait? Within the past five weeks the state flax plant has been obliged to refuse proffered orders for over \$100,000 worth of flax fiber, because the volume of their output is not large enough to take on more contracts than are on hand for future delivery, and it would require 40,000 acres of land to produce the fiber that is now imported by American manufacturers.

"Up to now," it would not have been possible for any Willamette valley community to undertake the establishing of flax threshing, retting and scutching plants with a certainty of success, even with good management.

But it is now possible. In the first place, American men and women will not pull flax by hand, in large quantities. This work is now done with cheap machines, at about a sixth the cost of hand pulling, and it is done better. Retting time has been reduced since the World War from six weeks or so to three or four days; and the retted product under new methods is better than under the old. Now, with a machine, scutching can be done by seven men that took, up to two years ago, the work of 180 men—and it is done better; more high quality fiber recovered; and more pounds of fiber to the ton of retted straw.

There are short cuts in handling spinning tow, in threshing—in every direction with the exception of the single one of sun drying. There has been all but a complete revolution in the processing of flax straw. The best and most up to date operators of the kind in the entire world is at the state flax plant. And the largest. And experts, taking educated young men, are being developed there, for the very emergency of their services being needed in local plants throughout the valley.

Why wait? Oregon City does not propose to wait. Neither does Eugene. Neither ought Corvallis, Albany, Dallas, McMinnville, Hillsboro and other cities and towns. In such a community as that made up of Mt. Angel and her surrounding territory there could be established a flax plant, with the use of federal farm aid money, under the new law—a cooperative association. And it would pay back the federal money long before it was all due, and still leave to the growers more money than they can realize at the present prices from the state flax plant. And the effort might lead to a spinning and possibly a weaving mill, to say nothing of the making of by-products and specialties. Is not that worth considering?

In such a community as Mt. Angel, there would be practically no risk. Only expert superintendence

would be needed. That may be developed at the state flax plant.

Do not get the idea that Col. W. B. Bartram, superintendent of the state flax plant and managing director of the Oregon Linnen Mills, Inc., is looking for a promotion job. He has enough work for two or three men now. He seeks no more. But he is a sufficiently loyal Oregonian to desire to help his state in a field in which he clearly sees a great future. He is planning to this end, in his public service at the state flax plant.

There is no call for pussyfooting in this field. There is no room for the cries of men with the inferiority complex, with the spirit of the outdated mosebackism that cursed this state and this valley and this city for so long.

It is high time that our people stepped out of this spirit of cynicism, this realm of do-nothingism. There is a great future for the Willamette valley. One of its outstanding coming industries will be that concerned with the growing and processing of flax, and the spinning of flax fiber, and the weaving of flax yarns, and the making of specialties from flax yarn and cloth, and in the manufacturing of things that may be made from the by-products of flax processing.

There is room for a vast amount of capital. Or the farmers of the valley, with the federal aid they may now have, can take the matter up, and soon be in position to supply the capital needed in every branch of the industry, without the help of any big money promoters. They have the possibilities in their own hands.

If it is treason to tell them so, then this writer is willing to bear the accusation of it. And so, no doubt, is Col. Bartram. The treason will in due time turn to the highest glory that is attained in this life, in the helping of one's fellows.

Old Oregon's Yesterdays

Town Talks from The Statesman Our Fathers Read

October 16, 1904
The city council has given permission to the city school board to meet in the room in the city hall used as a police court.

H. G. Spang arrived here from Coeur d'Alene City. He is a brother of Captain A. J. Spang of the Pomona.

Prof. W. P. Drew will speak this afternoon at the W. C. T. U. rooms.

Krebs Brothers, hop merchants, are arranging for erection of a sawmill on their 653-acre tract of

Held by White Slavers



Myriell Foley, once held as a captive by the East Boston, Mass., white slave ring, from whom police seek information in the kidnapping of the racketeer Reinstein in a Boston hotel. She had previously told detectives that her life had been threatened if she gave testimony.

schools wherein the child may live and develop as it should. The need for teachers to create new vision and liberate the latent in a child, and work toward more freedom in school life was emphasized. When every child is occupied with a piece of work which is developmental and interesting to him, and not detrimental to character, good order is a natural consequence.

PEDEE P. T. A. TO HEAR O. S. C. EXPERT

PEDEE, October 15.—Prof. Florence Blasler of the Oregon State Agricultural college will speak on "Vocational Education in the High School," at the next Parent-Teacher association held in the Pedee high school building.

Miss Blasler is an interesting speaker and her visit is being eagerly awaited. Election of officers will also be held at this meeting, and refreshments served.

Savings-Loan Manager Here Upon Business

George Uphogrove, general sale manager of the Prudential Savings and Loan association, 804 Yamhill street, Portland, Oregon, was in Salem Tuesday looking after the interests of the association. Mr. Uphogrove reports that due to their increased business they have been forced to enlarge their main offices at 804 Yamhill street.

He also states that the Prudential Savings and Loan association is the fastest growing savings and loan association in Oregon, having increased their assets 70 per cent during the past year. The assets of the association are now in an excess of 1,400,000.

Salem Student Is Honored at Oregon State

OREGON STATE COLLEGE, Corvallis, Oct. 15.—(Special)—Charlotte Martin, Salem, a senior in the pharmacy school, has just been elected vice president of the Pharmaceutical association of Oregon State college, an organization composed of all students studying pharmacy.

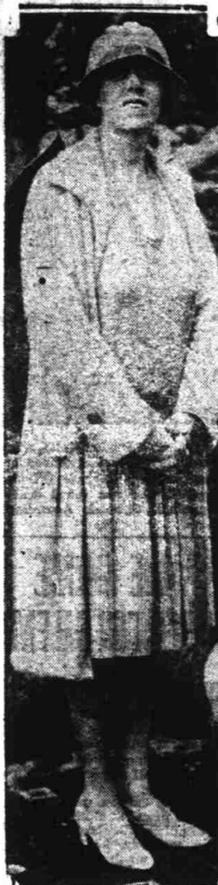
The demand for pharmacy graduates as drug store clerks is greater than at any time during the past 10 years, according to a report given at the last meeting of the association. At the present time there are 12 positions on file in the office of the dean of pharmacy, which have not been filled.

Farmer Moves To Canada by Living in Shed

MALONE, N. Y., Oct. 15.—(AP)—Arthur Plante, a Canadian who had resided in the United States for nearly 20 years, is preparing to spend the winter in his woodshed because that part of the residence, just north of Malone, which he purchased recently, is in Canada.

The dwelling, attached to the woodshed is in United States territory and Plante is prevented by

Parted in Paris



Doris Stevens, noted feminist, has obtained a divorce in Paris from Dudley Field Malone. Mrs. Malone fled her suit several months ago, charging desertion. The marriage was on December 5, 1921. Malone gained international renown as a confidant of the late President Woodrow Wilson. During the Wilson regime, he was collector of the Port of New York.

United States immigration authorities from again entering this country.

Plante is now busy making the woodshed weatherproof for the winter.

Notice to Subscribers: The Special Bargain offer to Mail Subscribers of the Oregon Statesman for \$3.00 per year by mail is not good within Salem City limits.

KINGS VALLEY BODY HAS FINE SESSION

Recently Acquired Oil Leases in District Arouse Interest of Group

KINGS VALLEY, Oct. 15.—Kings Valley grange met in regular session Friday evening with a good attendance of members, and four visitors from Mountain View grange. Mr. and Mrs. Blake and Mr. and Mrs. Pope.

An interesting talk on "Oil Possibilities in Oregon and Formation of Soil" was given by Wilson Bump. This discussion was of special interest to the members of the community as oil leases had recently been circulated by a Mr. Graham of Eugene to secure the rights for boring for oil.

Under the head of "good of the order," a suggestion was made that a "white elephant" sale be held to secure funds for the lecturer's work. The suggestion was accepted and it was decided to hold the sale at the next meeting.

Each member is to bring an article of discarded clothing wrapped in a bundle. The bundle will then be auctioned off, the price not to be less than six cents, nor more than 15 cents.

The person bidding the bundle in will immediately open the bundle, put on the article of clothing, and wear it the rest of the evening. Much fun is anticipated for the evening.

After the close of the lecturer's hour, the home economics committee served coffee and cake.

Drager Named Administrator Collard Estate

Dave Drager was appointed administrator of the estate of Elisabeth Collard in place of W. D. Matthews, resigned. A petition was filed seeking license to sell real property. The inventory appraisal of the estate was \$1000. The final account of F. R. Coleman, administrator of the estate of Elisabeth Drager, was approved and distribution ordered.

Sore Throats And Coughs Quickly Relieved by this Safe Prescription

Here's a doctor's prescription that is really throat insurance. Sore or irritated throats are relieved and soothed almost instantly with the very first swallow. About 90% of all coughs are caused by an irritated throat; consequently for most coughs there is nothing better than this famous prescription—it goes direct to the ligament cause. It is put up under the name Thoxine and is guaranteed to stop coughs and relieve sore throats in 15 minutes or your money will be refunded. Singers and speakers find Thoxine very valuable.

The remarkable thing about Thoxine is that while it relieves almost instantly, it contains nothing harmful, is pleasant tasting and safe for the whole family. Ask for Thoxine 35c., 60c., and \$1.00 bottles. Sold by Perry's Drug Store.

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Won't some other make prove more satisfactory?
Isn't there some other product that will suit me better?
Unless you can say "No" to these questions, about every purchase you make, there's a good chance that you are not getting the most for your money.

To get the most from every dollar of the family income—for food, clothing, furnishings and the rest—you must know what you want before you go to buy.

Read advertisements. They will keep you from throwing away your pennies—and your dollars. They will help you to live better and dress better at less cost.

Advertisements are the latest news of what the manufacturers and merchants are doing for you. They are interesting and instructive. The advertisements in this newspaper are the daily records of business progress.

Advertisements point the way to economical buying