

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe." From First Statesman, March 23, 1851

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No Sinking Fund Provided

FRED Paulus, who is deputy state treasurer, and served as secretary of the budget committee for the city this year, called attention to a very serious defect in the lack of provision for retirement of bonds issued for incinerator and airport construction. When asking why no sinking fund allowance on these issues was included in the 1930 budget, Mr. Purvine of the council committee stated that the charter amendments authorizing the bonds did not permit the sinking fund levy. If so these amendments are badly in fault.

We had thought it one of the most elemental of lessons in public economy that sinking funds should be provided for bonds of definite maturity, or else they should be issued with serial maturities. City Attorney Williams is dead wrong when he takes the stand that these bonds can be retired easily when they mature in the years 1936-1939. It may be that the city's increased valuation will permit the shouldering of this burden in the four years. But the principle is all wrong. Why shouldn't payments on the bonds begin immediately after their issuance. Why shouldn't the burders be spread out instead of allowed to mature all at once? Taxing units have found over and over again that bond issues for capital improvements ought to be retired year by year, or else sinking fund accumulation made. Otherwise the improvement may have been worn out when the bonds mature; or other obligations may have been assumed which make a lump sum payment a back-breaking affair.

The Statesman serves notice now that it will fight vigorously for precisely the kind of financing which Mr. Paulus urges, and will oppose any future charter amendments which fail to provide for the right kind of methods of taking care of the indebtedness. We have seen too much grief come in communities where they woke up some grey morning with a lot of bonds falling due and no money in the treasury to pay them with.

Ford Waves Green Lantern

THE obvious reason for the reduction in the price of Ford automobiles is that Henry Ford is waving a green lantern signalling full speed ahead for business. It is one of the several brave gestures which noted business leaders or concerns have made in recent days to restore confidence and reassure the public that business ought not to suffer because of the travail of Wall Street.

Out of the retirement of a quarter of a century John D. Rockefeller, Sr., emerges to issue a statement that he and his son are buying common stocks. The United States Steel corporation, industrial giant, declares an extra dividend. Likewise the American Tobacco company increases its return to stockholders. Now Mr. Ford bravely announces he is so sure of steady demand for his cars that he can afford to reduce the prices. All of these pronouncements are heroic efforts to stem the ebb tide. They are well timed, they are hostages to prosperity.

In reviewing some of the recent cases that have been tried in the local courts, one is impressed with the futility of damage suits unsupported by clear-cut evidence. Some of these cases ought never to have been started; and the responsibility rests on the lawyers who started them as well as the persons appearing as plaintiffs. The definitive verdict of the juries may teach some lawyers a lesson that they can't hang absurd claims for damages on other people unless they have strongly supported cases.

Some bold reporter asked a New Yorker who had lost a fortune in the crash of stocks how things were going. He replied indignantly: "I hear they've decided to sell the island back to the Indians for \$24."

It is interesting to watch the efforts of the bankers and financiers in the role of "all the king's horses and all the king's men" trying to put the Humpty-Dumpty of the stock market back in his seat on the top of the wall.

Three governors and a premier lined up with the prize bulls at the Portland stock show this week. The white-faced heifers no doubt missed Walter Pierce.

Plenty of soap on the windows after Halloween, but whatever became of the old-fashioned tick-tock stool on the house windows?

So Salem high school girls are not so healthy as the boys. Perhaps more of them should have reached for the sweet.

The northwest produced less honey this year. Shorter hours among the bees, we suppose.

The Portland community chest has turned out rather flat-chested.

BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Mexico's bold experiment—

The adoption of a new criminal code, the subject introduced in this column yesterday, is reviewed in Current History for October, by Salvador Mendoza, former professor of law in the University of Mexico City, one of the authors of the new instrument.

President Portes Gil, himself a distinguished lawyer, has already issued the new code, under special provisions, to be in effect January 1. As was said yesterday, it abolishes the terrible death penalty; and it also does away with trials of accused persons by juries.

It introduces a complete new technique for judging the crime, the criminal and the punishment, and takes a "pronounced attitude of human solidarity which sees in the perverse act of the criminal a shameful product of the whole of organized society." Mendoza says it is "hailed by public opinion throughout the continent as one of the greatest constructive events in the history of America," and that it is "especially noteworthy because it emanates from

Mexico; a humane step has been taken by one of the countries most scourged by violent death in recent years," and that "doctrines merely discussed hitherto by countries which call themselves 'whiter' are now put into practice by a nation of whom few ever believed that she could be a guide in humanity's quest for civilization."

"The school of tragedy and blood" through which Mexico has perforce passed in her many revolutions, Mendoza says, "has given rise to a social laboratory and clinic. He puts it well. He gave a lecture at Columbia university on the proposed new code, and Prof. Raymond Moley of the law school of that institution said: "Mexico is now opening to law the way to scientific progress, of which the legislators of the United States have not even begun to think."

The key to the new penal code is the fact that the old social attitude toward the criminal has changed; he is no longer considered as evil incarnate in man, as a demonic enemy of society. The ideas of revenge, hostility and

A House Divided



Lay Sermons

THE NEW HUMANISM

"And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord, your God, and none else." The strength of the Bible has been its note of confidence. It is no an argument; it is an assumption. It is not a proof; it is an offer of assurance. "In the beginning God" are its words of introduction. A picture of the celestial city is its conclusion. In the pages of the scriptures folk have searched for just such a commanding voice as the prophet Joel quotes: "I am the Lord your God, and none else."

There is a threat to this authority today. Not merely doubt as to the "inspiration of the Bible" but doubt as to the whole concept of religion. That is not new, one may remark. True, there have been challenges to the Christian faith from the time of its birth. The newer attack comes as a sort of behind the back blow of science, and armed with pikes sharpened in new schools of thought.

This new effort has a name, "humanism," borrowed from the old term applied to the first "moderns" who found in literature and the revival of learning intellectual freedom. The new humanists seek emancipation from the thralldom of superstition and along with it freedom from the old ideas of religion as well. Charles Francis Potter has founded the "First Humanist Society"

in New York. He defines Humanism as a call for direct action in looking for leadership within the human soul and personality. To quote from him: "Every religion there has been, is now and ever will be, has come out of the mind of man. Hitherto man modestly and humbly said that it came to him out of the skies or from some supernatural being or beings. 'I like Humanism and am a Humanist because I like to direct. Humanists recognize and admit the human origin of their religion. Why has your religion come in a roundabout way? Why not save time and take a short-cut right to the source? Religion will gain immensely when it drops the supernatural and faces the facts.'"

This would make Joel's words mere empty rhetoric. "I am the Lord your God, and none else" would be vainglorious assumption, not merely for the occasion but for the conception. Humanity is to be regarded as self-controlled and self-contained. Hence Joel's words would be correct: "I am the captain of my soul."

In the face of such a challenge it is not enough to quote pious phrases and to rely on ancient documents and arguments. Faith must seek corroboration in rational interpretation of life and man's relation to life. When all things are sifted and resolved, man may find that hope and love are the bulwarks as they are the companions of faith. The existence of these very instincts may be the soundest proof of the rational basis for a working faith.

There is to be a "supreme council of social protection and prevention," made up of five specialists. All the detention places will be under the jurisdiction of this council. The juvenile courts, reformatories, houses of correction, and other centers of prevention. The action of the court and the judge ends with the sentence. At that point the council takes jurisdiction and decrees the treatment to be given to each delinquent.

The sentences of the courts are consequently left indeterminate and conditional, so that the council can fix the best method of treatment and reform. Does the reader get that? All sentences are to be indeterminate. That is what Bismarck has advocated and contended for, during more than 30 years. That is what every modern penologist has subscribed to, as the great essential of reform in that field, which makes up the greatest needlessness expense in the United States and every other country—and the greatest heartbreak, for the innocent often suffer more than the guilty, and every one who either holds property or works contributes directly or indirectly to the great cost.

This is the first case in the history of Mexico where a code has been drafted only after previous consideration of the views of all social elements qualified to express a profitable opinion. The judges and lawyers, the doctors and educators, and all the men representing science, were consulted. President Gil was consulted at every stage. Full publicity was given in the press. The president did not wish in any way to coerce or unduly influence public opinion.

When the question of elimination of the death penalty came up, President Gil asked for open debate in the public forum, "with the result that, by the unanimous acceptance of all elements capable of forming an opinion, the progressive measure was approved." It was the product of an intellectual plebiscite—if the reader can conform his ideas to the anachronism of an intellectual plebiscite.

Valuable statistics were furnished by specialists who have directed years ago to eliminate juvenile delinquency. Already the at-

rected the investigation started by the department of justice are active in preparing for carrying out the mandates of the new code. This body of officials is acting in the nature of special investigators of the type laid down by the law. Thus the machinery of the law will be ready to function with the "supreme council of protection and social prevention" when it begins to function.

It is a far cry from the old practices of Mexico to the new system that has been provided for. It is a strange quirk of progress that stages the highest ideals of modern penology for trial in a country that one would have supposed was among the least prepared for all for such an experiment. Who can say how far reaching it may prove to be?

Old Oregon's Yesterdays

Town Talks from The Statesman Our Fathers Read

Nov. 8, 1904
About 175 teachers attended the first day's session of the Marion county teachers' institute. County Superintendent E. T. Moore is in charge, assisted by State Superintendent J. H. Ackerman, City Superintendent L. R. Traver and President B. F. Mulkey of the Oregon state normal school.

The Inquiring Twelve Reading club will meet at the residence of Thomas Simms on State street.

The Salem Brewery association has sold the business of furnishing ice to the public to the Salem Ice company. Interested in the latter company are John Steinman, M. H. Utter and J. A. Colgan.

George E. O'Brien and his sister, Miss Lida, O'Brien, were admitted to the bar and will live in Portland. She is the fifth woman in the state to be admitted to the bar.

OTHER EDITORS

GASTONIA JUSTICE

The same grand jury which indicted the strike leaders in Gastonia for the murder of Chief of Police Aderholt—of which they were on Monday found guilty—refused on Thursday to find any indictment for the killing of Ella May Wiggins, a cotton mill worker and mother of five children. Mrs. Wiggins was killed on September 14 when an anti-Communist mob fired on a truckload of Gastonia mill hands and sympathizers on their way to a union meeting. And a good many people in North Carolina and else where will say in consequence that Gastonia feels it a crime for a striker to shoot, but not a crime to shoot a striker.

"The Gastonia Gazette," on the day following the verdict against the strike leaders, boldly wrote: "Let us all hope that this will be the last time this country will ever have to undergo such a siege again. It will not be safe for any so-called labor agitator to be caught nosing around here any time soon. The folks here are simply not going to put up with it any longer."

That's about like an invitation to more violence, and the attitude of the Mayor of Gastonia, after the grand jury refused to indict any one for killing Mrs. Wiggins, was no more encouraging. He commented cheerfully upon the speed with which the calendar was being cleared. "Is the Wiggins case permanently closed?" a reporter asked him. He drew his reply: "Yes—unless somebody talks." No one of the gang who attacked the "labor agitators" is likely to talk; and the kind of blanket evidence which sufficed to convict the strike leaders is evidently not adequate in North Carolina to convict anti-strike leaders.

The situation is not one which peace-loving men can view with satisfaction. Mr. Iva Johnston, who in his dispatches from Gastonia, gave so vivid a picture of the fantastic courtroom scene, today gives another picture of the background of Gastonia. Guns are as common in Gastonia, apparently, as automobiles in New York. Feelings run high; doubtless they run high, too, among Mrs. Wiggins' friends. No community is really safe when any considerable group within it feels deeply that justice is denied it. "The Gastonia Gazette" and the Mayor of Gastonia would, we believe, do better by their community if they showed a serious desire to see equal punishment for the misdeeds of both sides in their industrial dispute.—New York Herald-Tribune.

GROWTH OF OREGON CITIES

That admirable bond for setting the Oregon Vote has established upon Dean Gilbert's Survey of Municipal Finance and extracted therefrom a highly interesting set of compilations setting out the growth of Oregon cities, which it presents in conjunction with an index of its own based upon school enrollment. Dean Gilbert's indices of growth are value of property, bank deposits, number of telephones and postal receipts. The Gilbert index covers the period 1919 to 1928. The school enrollment index covers the period 1918-19 to 1927-28.

Chief interest in the presentation from a hometown standpoint will be in the comparative growth of Eugene with that of other Oregon cities of approximately similar class. Starting from a basis of 100 we find growth in the cities in that group thus:

City	Gilbert Index	School Index
Eugene	248	153
Klamath Falls	319	206
Bend	217	239
Medford	255	219
LaGrande	156	153
Corvallis	309	144
Pendleton	138	118
Marshfield	153	113
Albany	149	106
Astoria	115	89
Baker	125	100
Salem	201	137

Thus by the Gilbert index Eugene's growth has been exceeded by that of three other cities, Klamath Falls, Medford and Corvallis. By the school enrollment index it has been exceeded by Klamath Falls, Bend and Medford. Growth in Portland, the state's metropolis, has failed to keep pace with that of some of the other cities, including Eugene. The Gilbert index gives Portland a standing of 186 while the school enrollment gives it but 132. Eugene beats it by either test by considerable margins.

Some of the smaller towns, such as Haines, Toledo and Reedsport, have outrun both the metropolis and the cities of the middle class. Most of the 98 cities and towns included in the compilations show some growth during the decade, but some few have lost population.—Eugene Register.

HORSE SHOW PRIZES
Portland banks are distributing a good many thousand dollar bills among the poor, rich folks whose fancy-gaited and high stepping horses win awards at the horse show held in connection with the Pacific International Stock Show. It looks to us like a waste of good money in an undeveloped state like Oregon where there are many other worth-while projects lacking encouragement. But the business of exhibiting fancy horses is an expensive one, even for the rich folks, and stakes must necessarily be high, if the entry list is to be large enough to guarantee a real show.

The horse show isn't entirely wasted effort, either. It draws to the big stock show thousands of Portland people who never would attend otherwise, the city folks who don't know a Poland China sow from a guinea pig, for instance.

Portland society turns out en masse for the horse show and it gains some idea, although probably a somewhat superficial one, of the triumphs of the livestock breeders in pavilion. Thus the management appeals to city and to rural groups and brings representatives of both together. Very likely the benefits of this contact justify the big purses for the horse show.—Albany Democrat-Herald.

The territory of Alaska has a net cash balance of \$1,000,000, a gain of \$132,365 over the previous year.

DON'T ENCROACH ON HEART'S REST HOURS

The "Usual Expectancy of Life" Can Be Shortened or Lengthened, Says Authority, Depending Much on How You Live and Treat Your Heart.

By ROYAL S. COPELAND, M. D., United States Senator from New York, Former Commissioner of Health, New York City.

MOST OF US fail to recognize the human body as a complicated machine. Yet this is what it is.

You have an engine in your automobile, in your boat or in any piece of machinery. Unless this engine makes a certain number of revolutions a minute your car or boat will stop. If you force it too hard or try to gain a greater speed than it is capable of, it will sputter, kick, knock or come to a standstill. This is so of the human machine.

There is what we call the "usual expectancy of life." Whether this is shortened or lengthened is, in a large measure, entirely within your own control. If you work all day and dissipate half the night, you cannot expect to live as long as you would with frequent periods of rest. I am not preaching, nor recommending that you live a life devoid of enjoyment and pleasure, but I do appeal to your common sense.

The heart, the engine of your body, does a wonderful piece of work for you. It pumps away, day and night, to make possible all the things you want to do. Like any other machine and tear. I do not mean it must stop beating, of course, but it requires time to slow down and recuperate from the great strain put upon it during activity. While you are asleep is the time the heart does its resting up.

We know that under normal conditions the heart rests one-tenth of a second after each beat. This short rest period makes it possible to store up sufficient energy for its contractile action. Walking, running, tennis and other sports make the heart beat faster, with shorter rest periods in consequence.

Everyone should be interested in the heart. Take good care of it. When you go on vacation have a good time, enjoy yourself to the utmost. But, even though it is a vacation, do not try to run night into day and wear yourself out. Come home rested. Many people, I fear, come home more fatigued than when they went away.

Take as good care of your heart as you can. It is the most important part of your life. It is what common sense tells you.

Answers to Health Queries

A DAILY READER. Q.—What should a girl fifteen years old, five feet one-half inch tall, weigh?
A.—A girl fifteen years old, five feet one-half inch tall, should weigh 110 pounds.

TROUBLED. Q.—What will relieve nasal catarrh?
A.—A spray is often helpful for nasal catarrh. For further particulars send a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

R. J. Q.—What can I do for a red nose?
A.—Poor circulation, indigestion and constipation are usually at fault for this trouble.

M. L. Q.—What should a girl 18 years old, 5 feet 8 inches tall, weigh?
A.—A girl 18 years old, 5 feet 8 inches tall, should weigh 125 pounds.

A.—A girl 15 years old, 5 feet 8 inches tall, should weigh 110 pounds.

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