

### Airplane to Blaze Old Trail Anew

ST. LOUIS (AP)—The Oregon Trail is to be blazed anew—but this time by airplane instead of covered wagons.

One hundred years ago on April 10 a band of pioneers driving covered wagons set out from St. Louis for the unmapped west. Their trip is little mentioned in history books, but the route they took is famed today as the Oregon Trail.

On April 10 of this year, according to tentative plans, another band will set out for the west from St. Louis, but the trip will be a short one, for a few miles out an airplane will take up the trail and speed through the air over the route those American frontiersmen so laboriously traveled.

The plane probably will carry a message from the governor of Missouri to the governor of Oregon.

The covered wagon-plane trip will signalize a nation-wide celebration of the Covered Wagon Centennial supported by the Oregon Trail Memorial association. Observance will extend from April 10 to December 29, the centennial to the birth of Ezra Meeker, a northwest pioneer who founded the Memorial association. Scenes of covered wagon days will be reenacted along the trail.

The party that starts from St. Louis over the old route this April will drive reconstructed wagons similar to those used by the pioneers.

Eighty-one fur traders and trappers riding mules made up the party that left St. Louis 100 years ago. The group, headed by William L. Sublette, drove 10 wagons and two deerbarns. Ten head of cattle and a milk cow also were taken along.

The wagon train traveled to the western limits of Missouri to the Santa Fe trail, where the old Oregon Trail later began at Independence, Mo., then northwest to the Kansas river. Crossing this, the pioneers went up the Great Plains river to the Rocky mountains and to the head of the Wind river, where they had a fur cache. They had traveled 1200 miles in 97 days, arriving at their destination on July 16.

The great westward movement did not start until 10 years later. It is estimated that 350,000 men, the trek over the trail before railroads were built, and many suffered privation and even death.

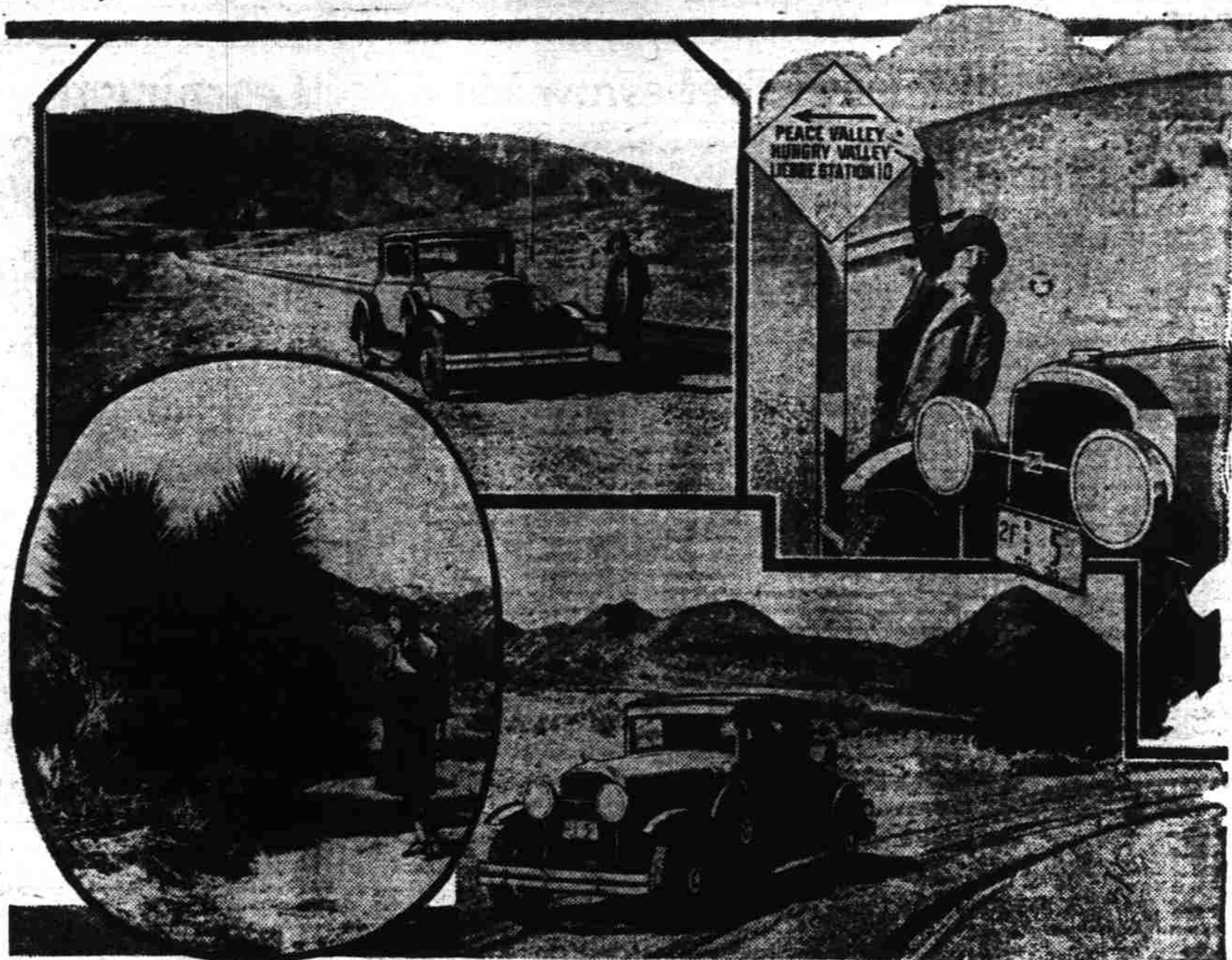
### SOUTHERN INSURERS HAVE HOLDING FIRM

COLUMBIA, S. C. (AP)—A \$22,000,000 holding company to be known as the Associated Life Companies, Inc., is the south's latest contribution to cooperative finance.

Announcing the formation of the gigantic holding company, C. O. Milford, president of the Southeastern Life Insurance company, said, "our long cherished dream of a giant life insurance organization has been realized. The new concern begins with a paid in capital of approximately \$6,000,000. Milford said it will hold substantial stock in the Southeastern Life Insurance company, a \$3,000,000 concern, and the Inter-Southern Life Insurance company of Louisville. Other southern companies will be added from time to time.

The holding company has been incorporated under the laws of Delaware and will open offices in Louisville, Nashville and New York. Milford will represent the Southeastern company on the board of directors which will include C. G. Arnett, president of the Inter-Southern company; Rogers Caldwell, president of Caldwell and Company, Nashville investment bankers; and Henry Altmstedt, of Altmstedt Brothers, Louisville investment bankers.

### BUICK SCOUTS SURVEY OF NEW RIDGE ROUTE



Western motorists were cheered lately when California State Highway Commission called for bids on first unit of highway to replace the present Ridge Route. New road will shorten running time from North to Los Angeles and will eliminate grades and curves. Upper left—Buick scout coupe south of Gorman, where new road will branch west from present highway. Upper right—Highway sign pointing to Peace Valley, through which new road will travel. Lower left—Picturesque desert vegetation on route of new highway. Lower right—Buick scout car in Peace Valley.

### Ancient Fabian Society Rises to High Position Of Political Importance

By BATES RANEY (Associated Press Staff Writer) LONDON (AP)—After forty-six years of street corner debating, soap box oratory and parlor socialism, the Fabian Society which had only 200 members in 1890, has become a political power in Great Britain.

Today its membership numbers about 2,000, many of whom are listed in Who's Who. A former Fabian is Prime Minister, eight members of the British cabinet are Fabians and twenty other members of the society hold important posts under the Labor Party government.

With the slogan "educate, agitate and organize," the Fabian Society, named after Quintus Fabius Maximus, who formulated the first "watchful waiting" policy as far back as the Punic wars, the intellectual group is consolidating its position with lectures this winter at Kingsway Hall under the general title of "Social Evolution: The Next Ten Years."

Prominent in attendance is a benevolent looking, elderly, white-whiskered gentleman known to the world as George Bernard Shaw who writes plays in his spare time so, some think, that he can attach long prefaces to them expounding Fabian doctrines. "G. B. S." was one of the pioneers in the lengthy political and intellectual crusade which succeeded in upsetting British conservatism long enough to put in power two socialist Labor party governments.

Some of the old-timers can recall when a blatant Shaw was showered with stones and bottles when he mounted his soap box in the London streets and Hyde Park while today many come just to see the benign old gentleman sitting at a Fabian lecture and hoping they may hear him speak.

Lord Passfield and his wife.

### CON LEAVES WIERD DESIGNS IN BRICK

SANTA FE, N. M. (AP)—At least one convict has left his mark on the New Mexico state penitentiary which may never fade.

A brick-layer, convicted of murder, was an inmate of the New Mexico prison in 1921 when additions were made to the state prison brick plant.

He was assigned to take charge of a job of building a new kiln stack.

When the scaffolding was removed, one side of the chimney which was laid by that convict was strangely decorated.

He had vented a knack of artistry with bricks by covering that side of the chimney with a design whose characters are still unintelligible to prison officials.

No one knows what "V. M. C." means, or the reason for the numbers "1105." They are not the initials of the convict and not the prison number of the convict. The convict never explained.

The prisoner was freed on an appeal to the state supreme court. Apparently he had been erroneously convicted. But in the heart of the prison brickyard stands his artistic monument, lending the only flash of color and design in the entire prison. His name is

### UNFROCKED PRIEST HELD MASQUERADER

MONTREAL, Italy (AP)—Unfrocked priests who refuse to quit wearing cassocks are henceforth to be punished exactly as are masqueraders in the uniforms of the Italian armed forces.

This is provided by the concordat between church and state, and Nicolò Termini, suspended from priestly functions by the Archbishop of Montreal, has just found it out.

Prior to the conclusion of the Lateran treaties, the Catholic authorities were powerless to enforce their canonical decisions on rebellious ex-clerics. Now the Italian state itself insures the respect of the ecclesiastical habit.

The Montreal case has had wide repercussions. The well-known Ernesto Bonajuti, whose sacerdotal dignity was taken away in 1925 by the congregation of the Holy office, has at last been obliged to forsake priestly raiment.

withheld by the prison officials because he has been released. The elements have never diminished the effectiveness of the design.

### "TROUGHS" FOR SHEEP

OGDEN, Utah (AP)—Sheepmen of this area have adopted a method of feeding their flocks from strips of canvas, laid out on the ground with a steel rib every 10 feet to prevent curling.

### LATINS BUY INSTRUMENTS

WASHINGTON (AP)—Latin America bought \$5 per cent of America's exported musical instruments last year, with a sales value of \$10,693,096. Canada was second, taking instruments valued at \$2,524,349.

### WATER PURIFIED BY SIMPLIFIED METHOD

PARIS (AP)—Fever balked Col. Philippe Bunau-Varilla years ago in his efforts to dig the Panama Canal, but he is conquering water microbes in Europe now.

He has discovered a new method of purifying water. The battle of Verdun, where soldiers drank impure water, spurred him to find a means of freeing water from all dangerous microbes.

His system has been adopted by a hundred cities of France and rapidly is coming into use by cities throughout Europe.

Colonel Bunau-Varilla's method is comparatively simple. In the past chemists introduced vast quantities of hypochlorite, a salt which made water bitter. He has devised a system of pumping hypochlorite into water by which he is able to reduce the purifier to one-fourth of the previous amount.

This pumping causes the chloride to produce violet rays, which sterilize and purify the water.

When typhoid fever broke out at Carcassonne, France, citizens sent an appeal to this French engineer. The fever resulted from impure water, and Col. Bunau-Varilla then established his purification system in that city.

Deriving his name from Verdun, his method is called "Verdunization of water."

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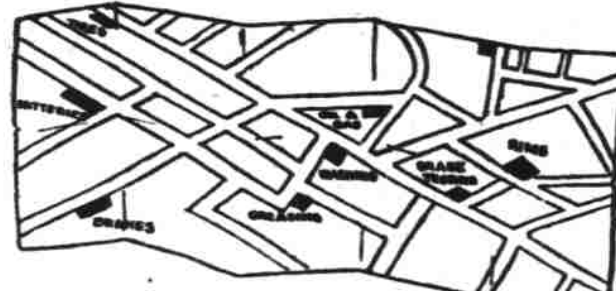
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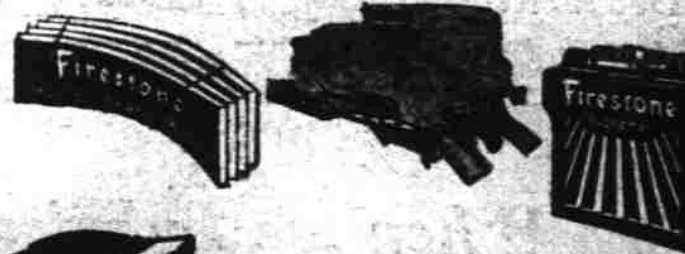


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