

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe."
From First Statesman, March 20, 1881

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.

CHAS. A. SPRAGUE, SUNDOWN F. SACKETT, Publishers

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Pacific Coast Advertising Representatives:
Arthur W. Stryker, Inc., Portland, Seattle, B. O.

Eastern Advertising Representatives:
The Associated Press, New York, N. Y.

Established at the Postoffice at Salem, Oregon, as Second-Class Matter, Published every morning except Monday. Business office 215-S. Commercial Street.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Mail Subscriptions: Rates in Advance. Within Oregon: Daily and Sunday, 1 Mo. \$1.25; 3 Mo. \$3.75; 6 Mo. \$7.25; 1 Year \$14.00. Outside of Oregon: Daily and Sunday, 1 Mo. \$1.50; 3 Mo. \$4.50; 6 Mo. \$8.50; 1 Year \$16.00. By City Carrier: 50 cents a month; \$5.50 a year in advance. For Copy 2 cents, Outside and News Stand 1 cent.

Trade Street Vacation

JULY and August are proving unusually warm months for Salem. Besides the natural heat, which by the way, is easily endurable, there is the heat of a controversy over vacating a portion of Trade street to permit the erection of a paper mill addition. The town is quite "hot" over it, and things have been said and done which we believe will be regretted when the matter is settled and people try to be friends again.

The Statesman was the first paper in town, we believe, to endorse the vacation of the street. Our endorsement was and is conditional on the consent of property-owners in the immediate area whose interests are affected. We have felt that everyone in town was eager for the enlargement of any local industry, and that if the men whose property interests are involved approve of the vacation, then the city council could surely grant it.

Salem cannot be accused of not being industrially minded. From the time over half a century ago when citizens put up the first woolen mill and converted Mill creek into a power stream, Salem people have fostered industry by contributions and by work for support of these industries. The people want the paper mill to grow and expand and increase its payrolls and its property investment.

We cannot, however, endorse some things which have been done by those zealous for securing the street vacation. To try to put the screws on people of different views through business pressure is contemptible boycott; and to abuse those whose honest opinions differ creates an atmosphere alien to true liberty of speech and action. Thus the excesses of the very friends of the project create a reaction against their own interests.

McDonald's Testimony

BY this time no one can put any credence in the testimony of John McDonald, self-confessed perjurer, who now asserts that his testimony against Mooney and Billings was framed. He stands out as a weak-minded creature whose word is worthless. It is quite impossible to evaluate now the testimony which he gave 14 years ago.

It is impressive to the outside world that some of those who were connected with the case now profess a change of opinion as to the guilt of Mooney and Billings or of one of them. The judge at the time of the trial has reversed his opinion as to their guilt. Captain Duncan Matheson, then of the San Francisco police force, now city treasurer, stated to the examining jurists that if he were sitting in judgment he would pardon both Mooney and Billings because they were "unjustly convicted." Police Captain Charles Goff stated that he favored executive clemency for Mooney but believes Billings was implicated in the bomb explosions.

Difficult it is to retry a case after the lapse of 14 years. If one or both of these men is innocent of the crime, then society has done them most grievous wrong. If guilty they have paid a penance for 14 years which is doubtless greater than the average term served even by a murderer. We are just like millions of others who are not in position to sit as judge in the case; but our attitude is that with the large element of doubt which has been raised, the California authorities should temper justice with mercy; and unless they are actually satisfied of the guilt of Mooney and Billings, they should be pardoned.

The "Horrid Example"

FRIENDS of the convention system of nominating candidates for office hailed the meeting of the state central committee to name a successor to George Joseph as an opportunity for showing the state the superiority of the delegate method of nomination over that of the direct primary. True this committee did not function after the manner of a real convention; but the system was the same: taking the nomination out of the hands of the people and vesting it in a delegated group, supposedly of "best minds," which in this case proved to be the party minds.

The net result is that with the dissatisfaction or rather lack of enthusiasm manifest in many quarters over the state it may be set down as a certainty that the direct primary with all its sins has been given a new lease of life for a quarter century.

Bob Ruhl, editor of the Medford Mail-Tribune, gives a very accurate summary of the consequences, under the heading "Farewell to the Convention System Forever." Ruhl writes:

"One result of the nomination of Phil Metschan is certainly all hope for any reform of the direct primary might as well be abandoned. As for repeal, one might as well attempt to repeal the law of gravity."

"Political theories, like business theories, rise or fall, not on promises, but on results. For many years opponents of the direct primary have scoffed at the quality of national products, and longed for an opportunity to show how much better a party convention would work."

"Well, last Saturday they had their opportunity. And Mr. Metschan was the result!"

"As we pointed out yesterday, there was no machine control of the convention. No heavy-handed boss in a hotel room determined the result. The outcome was the product of perfectly free and untrammeled forces, but the outcome not only failed to arouse enthusiasm among the people, but even among the delegates. The only ally for the latter was that, under the circumstances, it was THE BEST THEY COULD DO."

"We know very little about Mr. Metschan. It is probably true he measures up reasonably well with the average product of the direct primary."

"But that isn't the point. The point is that Mr. Metschan as the former head of the state Republican committee, opinion in the public mind which is popularly known as the 'Republican machine.'"

"The first political convention in modern history, instead of producing something new and different, produced another example of the same old thing. And at the ONE time when the rank and file have no use for the 'same old thing.'"

"Not for many years has the Republican party needed more acutely a candidate who was 'different' from a real leader, a man of outstanding qualities of ability and character."

"As we pointed out before the convention, such a man was Tom Koy. But it was for that very reason—because he refused to play the old discredited political game—that his supporters in the convention were unable to put him over."

"Mr. Metschan may win. We don't know. In fact, we don't much care. We are far more interested in the Rogue River initiative measure, noted above, and the cabinet form of government, than we are in getting the most votes in this gubernatorial scramble."

"But this much is certain. Whoever wins, the movement for a return of the political convention system is gone forever."

"In this direction at least Opportunity will never knock again."

The penultimate story states have a long way to go before they exceed the 50-year record of St. Simon who retired from the world's top a small town.

The Safety Valve

Letters from
Statesman Readers

The Oregon Statesman Publishing Company.

Gentlemen:

Several prominent citizens of Salem called at my law office and tried to persuade me as a signer of the remonstrance against the vacation of Trade street to withdraw my name from same. They reminded me that I was still a young lawyer and expected to develop a practice of law in Salem and suggested "that this would not help me in my business." One of the things I learned as a lawyer was to be true to my convictions and the thought was impressed upon me that when I was confronted as to the right of a given problem, I must carry it to its logical conclusion. Now, with this in mind, when the question of the vacation of Trade street came up, I felt that this was a matter of great importance to my city and in order to bring the matter before the people for their consideration I signed the remonstrance for which some have taken the liberty to offend.

I signed the remonstrance in order to give the people of Salem an opportunity to decide whether or not they desired to vacate Trade street and I am always willing to encourage and assist both. I have no personal interest in Trade street or the paper mill nor any ill feelings toward anyone connected with the mill or any citizen who is interested in having the street vacated. I am, however, decidedly interested in seeing that the matter is properly aired and decided based upon published opinion.

When observed through the eyes of the community the matter of the vacation appears to be one of major importance. So far about all the talk has been one-sided—namely, after all who is to be benefited and who is to be loser? The mill is trying to railroad through a vacation program for no other interest than its own, no blame to them of course, but a few of the wide awake citizens feeling loyal to their fellow man saw fit to sign a remonstrance against such action. The attitude of the signers as I have gleaned is not to hold up the progress of the city or keep out labor or reduce same, but one of protection for the whole community. This rest of vacation will at least keep the people of Salem from being lulled into a false sense of security and no opportunity to remedy same once the street is vacated. A fair and complete investigation will now be necessary to the protection of every citizen and taxpayer in the city.

Newspaper items and conversations indicate threats from the mill to move part of the mill to another city, certain stores, restaurants and banks are not to be patronized unless the signers remove their names from the remonstrance and allow them to take over the street for mill expansion. They do not want anything, then threats of removal of not patronizing, not hiring 50 more men, in all a fine spirit when asking charity, which shows how close to their hearts are the people of Salem. Do they by these threats hope to hastily impose upon the community before they are able to raise their voices and matter is serious and deserves deep consideration?

After some thought it will be noticed that a principle is involved, that a dangerous precedent is being allowed. There are many business concerns in Salem who own paper mills and they have all assisted in building up the community and hire many people. Do they demand streets for expansion? Do they threaten "they will do this and they won't do that and they will move out" if we do not give them streets? If we do not give them streets, they will move out. These other industries and factories are just as entitled to streets as the paper mill; and I might add—have we sufficient streets to go around? No. Then why discriminate? Other concerns grow and expand and stand on their own feet. Why can't the paper mill do the same? Must we baby them to the exclusion of all others?

It appears from the conversation of men interested that the hiring of an additional 50 men is a sufficient inducement to influence the signers of the remonstrance to withdraw. When other industries are involved, why hide behind the question of labor? If they must, why not add that they have cut the wages at the mill sufficiently to save the mill \$5000 a month, and with a \$10,000 building to put up, just 15 months of extra earnings of the mill employed at the mill have paid for it? The city giving them the land—well this is business all of us can enter into. Now, where is the benefit in dollars and cents?

The stockholders and owners have increased their holdings and pocketbooks about \$100,000. Does the city gain anything? Yes. A narrow street with a privilege of buying more land years hence at an exorbitant figure to put the street back to its former width. A bright place of business—for the mill. Trade street at a later date will be practically the center of town and excellently located to cause untold traffic trouble if narrowed down as planned. It has always been one of Salem's greatest assets to have wide streets. Every street is a landmark and proponents of the vacation say Trade will be no narrower than Perry.

Why increase the number of narrow streets when they should be eliminated entirely? Will it be the policy for us at a future date to experience the trouble and expense that Portland now is allowing narrow streets to cause? It will be through a direct check of principle and the setting of a dangerous precedent that such a

A SAFEGUARD AGAINST INVASION



"The SEA BRIDE"

By BEN AMES WILLIAMS

THE ROMANCE OF AN EVENTFUL WHALING CRUISE

Brander had not seen Dan's when the man came first to crouch above them. Dan's was at Willis when Brander threw the knife. That weapon being gone, Brander turned his attention to the man who had his throat. He worked as coolly as if this man were his only antagonist. While he held off the others with his left hand and his knees, his right hand went up over his shoulder and found the face of the man who choked him. This groping hand of his came down against the man's face from above. His palm rested against the cheek of his antagonist; his thumb against the chin. His fingers groped under the other's jaw-plate and clinched around it, biting far up into the soft flesh at the bottom of the mouth. He got a grip on this bone that would hold; and the man screamed, and Brander jerked him up and over his shoulder. The man slid helplessly, tearing at Brander's clutched fingers.

Brander at this time was sitting with Silva at his left, arms crossed, feet striking, and the other man at the right. The man whose jaw he held came down in Brander's lap. He brought his right knee up with all his force against the other's head, and the man became a dead weight across his legs. Brander wriggled free of him. He thought calmly that one of the three was gone and only two remained and turned his attention to the others.

He had been forced to let them have their will of him for the second time required to deal with the man who had choked him. They had him down now on his back on the cabin floor—one on either side of him. He got a left-hand grip on the seaman; he set his right hand on Silva's arm and future expense and traffic menace will be caused. Then why cause such trouble? So a company here can expand with the least possible expense? They have land to expand on but it would entail more expense than expanding on the narrow street. Would such an investment on the public warrant the saving of dollars to a private concern? Better take up a pole and give them the difference in cash and save one street. Naturally the mill will fight for it, and who can blame them? It's all gain for them and nothing to lose. Maybe it is correct for the city to have part of the street or all of it for that matter. That I do not hope to decide, but I am as a land owner and taxpayer and citizen of Salem vitally interested in its future and I feel it my duty as such citizen to give all the people of the city a chance to familiarize themselves on the topic before such serious action is taken. As such I will not take the reason for the remonstrance signed here, namely, that they are losing business or some prominent man wants it. They are afraid to speak and act for fear of losing business or a job. The mill never has given me legal work, I don't object. I use their paper in my office because it is a favor Salem industries, products and labor.

After many talks with those who know, it appears to be a matter of saving expansion expense. Then why not form a plan to raise the money? Some of them must have help and save one beautiful wide street. This letter is made necessary as I have frequently been condemned for my attitude in signing the remonstrance and I feel I have a just right as a citizen to explain why I signed.

Sincerely yours,
ROBERT S. BATCLIFFE

BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Voyage of the LAUSANNE:
Concluding the recital of Mrs. Sarah R. Beegs, the last survivor of the "great reinforcement."

"My husband, Dr. Frost, was obliged to give up his mission work because of failing health. At the end of five years of service in Oregon he returned east, where a little later he died. A few years afterward I was married to Rev. A. R. Beegs, one of the pioneer ministers of the Rock River conference. I assisted him in his work for many years, and organized a large number of women's foreign missionary societies. Mr. Beegs died a few years ago.

"I have seen three generations come and go. I am old, gray, blind and wrinkled, and time threatens to rush me into the great beyond. Dr. J. D. Beegs, my nephew, brought me to his home where I am pleasantly situated. He says the Lord has dealt very kindly with me in leaving me the use of my mind. I dictate my letters, but must use a borrowed hand to write them. My nephew and niece say I must stay with them until I am a century old. The years of my life have been full of Christian work.

"I have attended church frequently at the old church at Willamette Falls (Oregon) City, which my sister was at that place when Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, the bride and groom, were swept over the falls. I have camped many times upon the grounds where the beautiful city of Portland now stands and in which the Lewis and Clark expedition of 1792-93 spent some time. Your reference to these and other things awakened precious memories of the olden time and brought forth a flood of tears." Signed, Sarah R. Beegs.

The drowning at "The Falls" was February 2, 1842, according to Hines, February, according to Bancroft. Cornelius Rogers, who came as a layman in 1838 with the American Board missionary party to reinforce the Whitman and Spalding missions at Wallatapu and Lapwai, to the Willamette mission from the Whitman station in 1842, had married Sophia, the eldest daughter of David Leslie, aged 15. The bride and groom, with the little sister of the bride, Aurelia, were on their way from the Willamette mission to the Falls, where they were to be married. Their passage was over the falls, descending three, besides Nathaniel Crocker, who came with Dr. White party in 1842, and two Indians, who were in the boat when they attempted to make a landing and by accident it got loose and into the swift current above the falls and the tragedy was complete. The tragedy cast a gloom over the early Oregon settlement of less than 400 white people living here at that time, nearly half of them having arrived with the Dr. White party of that year.

Rev. Frost was succeeded at the mission on Clatsop plains by Rev. J. L. Parrish, who came of the Lausanne to the old mission and served there as the blacksmith at first. He became a minister and was most successful in handling the Indians. He was known among them as "the man of peace." He was a very finest junior high school in named for him; being located on a part of what was his donation land claim.

Rev. W. H. Kone and wife, of the Lausanne party, were sent to help Rev. Frost and wife in the work of the Clatsop mission, and they got to work late in 1840 to build their log mission house, with the help of Solomon Smith and his Clatsop Indian wife—the woman who was the wife of the doctor at Fort Vancouver, and with whom he stopped and came to the Joseph Gervais house, and was teaching school there when Jason Lee first arrived in 1834; thus being the first school teacher in what is now Oregon. He (Smith) and his Indian wife had been converted and gone to Clatsop plains to live. He was a saint of missionary to her people. By December, 1840, they had a rude log house completed, though its roof leaked under the torrential rains. "At night their floor was often covered with sleeping Indians," says Bancroft, "and the filthy habits, and through the smoke, the smoke came down upon their beds." Then they found the marshes around them were quagmires in the winter, and it was a hard task to transport supplies from Astoria. Such was life for the early missionaries. Most of the high plain men and women, such as Mrs. Beegs, then Mrs. Frost, who had theretofore been used to the comforts and amenities of civilization. Bancroft says:

"Fortunately, about Christmas they were relieved by Catharine Tibbits, who had determined to settle near the sea coast, and by a negro named Wallace, a deserter from the American army. (Tibbits had come to the country with the first work party, in 1832. He was a member of the 1837 expedition which brought the first settlers from California; the first source of wealth for the Willamette valley. He was elected one of the county judges of Clatsop county.

"Then we'll go out and fill our canoes," she said. "And then, home!"

Brander looked at her with (Continued on Page 7)

HEALTH

Today's Talk

By R. S. Copeland, M. D.

Some ailments of infancy and childhood are really terrifying. Convulsions is one of them. It strikes terror in a mother's heart. Convulsions in an infant under one year is a condition more serious than in older children. But up to the age of three it should not be regarded lightly. It rarely attacks a child after the sixth or seventh year.

The attack comes on suddenly. In the first stage the arms and legs become stiff, the eyes roll up, the breathing appears to stop. The head is thrown back, and the body is rigid. Then spasms occur in the legs and arms. There is distortion of the muscles of the face. The whole body appears to be in convulsive action. Indigestible Food In a few minutes the attack passes off. But it may come back again. In the case of an infant a form of fever may be followed by convulsions.

Not only a high fever, but any excitement and various toxic conditions of the system may bring on convulsions. Certain brain ailments may be ushered in with this symptom. Most of the common ailments of babies may be traced to wrong feeding. Convulsions are a very likely result of indigestion. Constipated bowels, or other bad substances, can produce this trouble. If an attack appears the first thing to do is to call a doctor. Until he comes you must do something to draw the blood from the head to the extremities. This may be accomplished by immersing the child in a bath of warm water, not hot water, of course. You must be very careful about having the water warmer than the body temperature, but not hot enough to scald the child. Be extremely careful about this.

The Treatment Place the child in the bathtub, being careful to keep the head above water. Apply cold water to the face. The idea is to keep the head cool and the body warm. Rectal enemata should be given as an aid to empty the bowels. This is very important. There are three things to remember—first, send for a doctor; second, place the child up to the neck in warm water; third, apply cold compresses or an ice bag to the head. Your child's health is of the greatest importance. The eating habit of the youngster to establish must be higher than a mother must always be vigilant as to what her small child puts in its mouth. Proper food and feeding can prevent convulsions.

MEAN COST ESTIMATE CHICAGO (AP)—The cost of operating a single automobile is 3.44 cents a mile, says the Chicago Motor club.

A Problem For You For Today

A man paid \$1440 for wheat at 30.75 a bushel and sold 74125 of it at a profit of 12 of his cost. What was the selling price?

Answer: To Yesterday's Problem 50 bushels. Yesterday's problem is 30.75 to the time it would take. Multiply 3 by 75 and divide by 12.