

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe."

From First Statesman, March 28, 1851.

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.

CHARLES A. SPAGUE, SHELDON F. SACKETT, Publishers

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Ford-Pearson-Sheeler, Inc., New York, 271 Madison Ave.;
Chicago, 300 N. Michigan Ave.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Mail Subscription Rates, in Advance. Within Oregon: Daily and Sunday, 3 Mo. 16 cents; 3 Mo. \$1.25; 6 Mo. \$2.50; 1 Year \$4.00. Elsewhere: 2 Mo. 16 cents per Mo. or \$5.00 for 1 year in advance.

By Mail Order: 26 cents a month; \$3.00 a year in advance. Copy 2 cents on trains and News Stands 5 cents.

Corn Price Passes Wheat

PRICES for early futures in corn overtop those for wheat. This extremely rare occurrence has come about because of the drouth damage to the growing corn crop in the Mississippi valley corn states. A similar situation on the price took place in 1920 when the price of wheat was fixed by the government, while corn, uncontrolled, soared higher than wheat.

The rise in prices is acclaimed as bringing good to the farmer, but where the farmer has seen his crop wither and dry up there is scant comfort in price if he has little to sell. This is especially true of corn, because most of our corn crop is consumed on the farms. It is fed to hogs and cattle. A short corn crop and high prices makes the farmer feed high-priced corn to his stock. He may even have to go into the market to buy corn and pay the high prices. Meantime the prices of hogs and cattle are determined not by the price of the feed but by the numbers being marketed or fed. High feed prices force stock on the market early and in poor condition, which helps bring down the prices they sell for.

So the drouth in the middle west will cause genuine economic loss to thousands of farmers, in spite of the higher prices for corn. Newspaper accounts describe the heat wave as the worst in 50 years. We do not go back that far in memory but do recall the severe drouth in 1901 when crops languished in the intense and continued heat and dry weather. This was followed in 1902 by a very rainy season so the streams ran bank full in midsummer. In 1925 the seasons in the middle west were very wet and in 1927 the floods struck the south. This seems to be the other phase of the weather cycle.

We are such steady recipients of "normal weather" in which we dig and delve in mother earth and receive from her generous returns of crops, that we are ill reconciled to the extremes of heat or rainfall which interfere with our plans. When nature goes on a course widely variant from the normal, then men suffer because crops fail and income is cut off. This is one phase of farming which is quite beyond human correction.

A Colorful Campaign

ILLINOIS, long a bloody ground for political campaigns, offers a most interesting situation in its election of a United States senator this fall. Ruth Hanna McCormick, at a cost of a quarter million dollars, won the republican nomination. James Hamilton Lewis spent but \$35 to become the democratic nominee. So it is a man against a woman, but the man is noted for his gallantry, his urbane politeness as for his once flaming pink whiskers and his sartorial elegance.

The particular office they are striving for has rather a kinky history. Lewis himself held the seat from 1912 to 1918. He was defeated in the latter years by Medlin McCormick, late husband of the present republican candidate. Then McCormick was defeated in 1924 by Charles S. Deneen. Mrs. McCormick sought revenge and defeated Deneen. And now she must race against the man her husband displaced in 1918.

The odds are with Mrs. McCormick because Illinois is a strong republican state and she has the backing of most all the machines that operate there, including the wicked ones in Chicago. Lewis is spectacular, a constant winner of front page publicity, and the race will not be decided till the votes are cast.

Jim Ham Lewis is quite a character. He lived in Washington 40 years ago, went to congress from that state. Then he settled in Chicago, practicing law and politics with considerable success. He is one of those picaresque figures about whom legends grow and multiply. An able speaker, a quick wit, he will campaign with knightly chivalry against his sturdy opponent.

The Summer Heat

THE heat in the east has been terrible this season. Some have died, others have one loco. Its effect may persist like the war-time influenza. Shall we attribute to the heat of summer the announced vagaries of two of the country's literary critics?

H. L. Mencken, caustic critic, editor of the American Mercury, and contributor to papers and magazines, is engaged to be married, and chooses for his bride Sara Powell Haardt, a writer for popular magazines. A confirmed bachelor of 50, whose heart as revealed in his writings resembles a dried pea, is stepping out into matrimony. What a shock to the intelligentsia, to the literary guild and to the dear public who have been fed so long on Mencken's acid phrases.

Then Heywood Broun, contributor to the "Nation" and the New York Telegram, is becoming a candidate for congress. Braun contributes a weekly page to the "Nation" entitled "It seems to Haywood Broun." How delectable it would be to have him write as a member of congress, socialist at that. Broun, like Mencken, succeeds in finding most everything wrong and out of joint. He would probably find plenty more material if he should be any mischance get sent to congress.

Now here is a question about as good as Edison's desert question: Which is worse, for Mencken to get married or Broun go to congress?

In the death of George S. Long, the northwest has lost one of its most distinguished citizens and the lumber industry one of its greatest leaders. Mr. Long was a resident of Tacoma for many years where he held the office of vice-president and general manager of the Weyerhaeuser Timber company. As executive in charge of the operations and holdings of this great concern his responsibilities were heavy. Yet he found time to serve in many civic capacities until he was one of the foremost men of his city and state. A long life, filled with work and achievement, is the worthy record which Mr. Long has left.

The California-Oregon Power Company announces the expenditure of \$27,500,000 on new power projects near Klamath Falls. We note that Bruce Dennis, now convert to Josephism, makes no objection to this rape of Oregon's water power by the utility trust. Instead, in his Klamath Falls Herald he proclaims it as new evidence that Dennis has ever thwarted the expansion plans of the Hedgeson concern nor aided the Klamath farmers in their fight over their loss of water to the power concern.

H. H. Stallard, who is sojourning in our midst, adding the badge of martyrdom to his political stock-in-trade, says that he proposes to support for governor neither Motschan, Meier nor Bailey. Well, Stallard, that's about the way we feel too. There ought to be a sign on the November ballot: "Elect any of these at your own risk."

The only people who make money out of the fruit business seem to be the spray-makers.

HEALTH

Today's Talk
By R. S. Copeland, M. D.

We all know the colored part of the eye is the iris. It is brown, or blue, or black, or gray. The iris is really a muscle.

What appears to be a black patch in the middle is a hole in the iris. This is the "pupil" which varies in size as the muscles and circulation of blood cause it to dilate and contract.

Of course, the iris is subject to disease just as any other muscle. Its most disagreeable ailment is called "iritis."

In iritis or inflammation of this muscle, the most marked symptom is pain. This may be located either in the eyeball, or in the forehead between the brows. There is much watering of the eye and bright light causes distress.

There is a zone of redness in the "white of the eye," around the iris, together with dimness of vision. The redness gradually spreads until the entire white may become inflamed. The pupil, which normally reacts to light and shade, becomes fixed in iritis.

This condition requires careful attention in order that the sight may not be affected permanently. Valuable time is sometimes lost by mistaking the trouble for conjunctivitis, which is an inflammation of the mucous membrane lining the eyelid and covering the eyeball.

Reading, or any close work, must be avoided, and dark glasses may be worn for comfort. But the underlying cause must be cleared up before recovery can be expected.

In the chronic form there may be present some blood disease, tuberculosis, or diabetes. In this case the constitutional disease is probably the cause of the iritis. Your doctor will institute the necessary general treatment.

But, if the cause is obscure, a search must be made to find where the trouble lies. Chronic constipation, pyorrhea, decayed teeth, abscessed tonsils are all factors in producing the disease.

In the control of this disease I want to emphasize the importance of plenty of rest and relief from nervous excitement. The patient should spend much time out-of-doors and exercise reasonably. But he must be careful to avoid the bright sunlight. The diet should be carefully watched.

In treating iritis the pupil is kept dilated by the medicine the doctor prescribes. For the relief of the pain, the application of heat, as hot as can be borne, is the most beneficial. Capsicum-vaseline applied to the temple may help to relieve the suffering.

If there is redness of the eye or any pain, be sure to consult your doctor immediately. The trouble is probably not serious, but do not take a chance.

Answers to Health Queries

Miss G. R. Q.—What would cause the face to burn and become very red? Some days only one side will be affected. The trouble is not caused by excitement or undue warmth.

A.—This disturbance is probably due to a circulatory disturbance. Improve the health in general and the circulation will improve.

M. E. Q.—What causes aches and what treatment is suggested?

2. What can be done to overcome the habit of blushing?

A.—For full particulars send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and repeat your question.

2. This is usually due to youth and self-consciousness. Try to cultivate poise and easy manner—mixing with people, keeping up with the topics of the day, to give you confidence in conversation, and taking an active part in affairs with all help you.

Miss M. H. Q.—What do you advise for falling hair? My hair is white and curly, but is coming out.

A.—I would suggest shampooing regularly with a good pure soap and warm water, and the use of a stimulating ointment.

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