

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Hopes on Appeal

THE Oregonian is dissatisfied with the decision of the federal district court in the cross-state railroad case, and is hopeful of a reversal when the question goes before higher authority. It remarks in one paragraph:

"In so saying the court disregards several salient facts. Harriman believed there would be enough through traffic for both Southern and Union in western Oregon, for he started to build the line and he projected several other line branches to open up eastern Oregon. The assumption that all traffic which the Union Pacific might draw from western Oregon would be diverted from the Southern Pacific is contrary to experience. A competing line giving increased service develops so much new traffic that two roads prosper better than one. The Great Northern and Northern Pacific are an example. This would surely follow construction of a new line 200 miles shorter than any existing line."

It is a quarter century since Harriman was dreaming of railroad empire. Great changes in transportation have come about in that period. Good roads and trucks are a threat to railroads even on trunk lines, and have virtually put out of business branch lines of railroad. Instead of expanding mileage railroads have been reducing it, the net mileage now being not greatly different from a decade ago.

In the matter of increase of traffic through competition this is true within limits. Railroads do develop a country. The example cited of the construction of the Great Northern following the Northern Pacific is pertinent. It is likewise pertinent to cite the subsequent construction of the Milwaukee which failed to develop the additional tonnage to justify the construction.

The final point made by the Oregonian about the cross-state line being 200 miles shorter than any existing line may be correct; but have not the Portland papers long extolled the advantages of the water grade? Without professing any special knowledge it would seem that the Union Pacific could haul its freight over its water grade line to Portland, a line which is built to handle traffic in large volume, more cheaply than it could to carry it over the mountains and over the high plateau of central Oregon.

More Legislative Arithmetic

THE legislature is considering a bill for free textbooks in schools. We believe firmly in free textbooks, but the problem presented is not so simple as the legislature seems to think. The state is not paying for these textbooks, not at all. It is ordering the districts to pay for them and to raise the money by real tax on property. The district has no option; the law is mandatory.

Consider this: Oregon gives only an insignificant sum to its elementary schools in the form of state aid. The per capita donation of Washington and California is far in excess of that from this state. Virtually the whole burden rests upon the individual districts. Yet the state is imposing this additional burden upon the districts, many of which are not in shape to carry additional burdens. The Salem school district has over \$100,000 of warrant indebtedness. Eugene has a similar large floating debt. Corvallis has been trying to extricate itself from such a burden. School directors already distracted to provide revenues for schools, will have their problems increased under this burden.

Another fact: the state while making scant contribution for local education, has through the six per cent limitation, definitely raised the bars against local districts going beyond a certain marker in their levy of taxes. An additional fact, the legislature two years ago put on the schools the burden of free transportation. The tax is raised by the county court, but it falls on real property just the same. The question is not simply one of whether free textbooks are a good thing or not. That, in our judgment, has been conclusively demonstrated. The immediate question is who is to pay for them. Unless the state is ready to increase its tax to the public schools or provide some other revenue for the schools, we believe free textbooks should be left optional with the districts at least for a term of years, until some of the districts like Salem, get out of the woods financially.

Colds at the University

NOW that "Doctor" Ingalls of the Corvallis Gazette-Times is safely about again after an attack of the mumps, he should turn his deft hand to the medical instruction of the editor of the Oregon Emerald. The student scribe makes some comments respecting the state of health on the university campus, and we judge from his remarks that there has been an outbreak of running noses and thick heads and general malaise which attach to colds, flu and la grippe. Here are the remarks of the Emerald editor on the subject, and we wonder if they have been given the scientific okay of the university medical school. Says the varsity editor:

"Changeable weather and its usual epidemic of colds."
"While it is only natural to run out of doors without sufficient clothing at the first sign of spring, this practice is largely responsible for present conditions. Open windows which cause drafts to blow directly on a person are a usual cause for catching cold."

Evidently the red flannel brigade is strongly entrenched at Eugene; but we stand aside to let "Dr." Ingalls open the eyes of the youthful writer to his germ theory of colds.

A revamped tunnel bill is up for public hearing tonight. It is said to carry the emergency bill, though what emergency there is to necessitate its immediate construction is hard to see. Quoting Gov. Baker's message: "I recommend that you attach the emergency clause only to legislation where a real emergency exists." Of course the thought is that an emergency clause would prevent a referendum on this rotten measure.

Ransay MacDonald made a poor bargain. He gave India all that wanted, almost; and let Gandhi out of jail. Now Gandhi fails to call off his civil disobedience program. Independence is strong wine; and when a people get a taste they want to drink the whole bottle.

The political entrenchments at Washington are a veritable Hindenburg line. The senate has dug in on one side, and the president and the house on the other. It is doubtful if either side knows just what it is fighting about. Meantime there is a legislative stalemate.

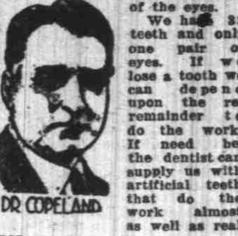
The ground hog didn't do us a bad turn yesterday even if he did see his shadow. Six weeks more of the same will be heartily welcomed.

The Sunday night rally indicated that prohibition sentiment isn't dead yet, even if this is the "hop center of the world."

HEALTH

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

We are daily reminded over the radio and by advertisements how important is the care of the eyes. We are reminded of the need for care of the eyes.



It is true that artificial eyes can be bought. But such purchases are made for cosmetic reasons and of course not for sight.

In the care of the eyes we should follow the same hygienic rules that apply to the general care of our health. Never abuse your eyes. Remember and appreciate their value, and treat them accordingly.

Everybody should have the eyes examined at least once. Quite often eye defect exists of which the victim is utterly unaware. Early care of such a condition is likely to eliminate later discomfort. Eye examination and proper prescribing of glasses will do away with the so-called "eye strain" and its familiar companion, headache.

Unfortunately, we are a vain and proud people. Most of us dislike wearing glasses. We are amazed to learn the number of glasses that are sold yearly and the number of glasses that were actually worn.

Those are, indeed, fortunate individuals who have no defects whatsoever. They should treat their eyes with respect, however, or they, too, will have trouble.

There are a few general rules which it will pay to observe. Never read on moving vehicles. It is best not to read while lying down. At all times attempt to have the light come from over your shoulder. Do not read in glaring or in dim light. A soft, mellow light is easily obtained, and is the ideal light to use.

A common practice, which should be prohibited, is the removal from the eyes, by inexperienced persons, of cinders and other foreign bodies. This is usually undertaken in accordance with the combined and composite advice of the assembled friends. It may vary from the advice to blow the nose, to rubbing the left ear and the offending eye at the nearest physician who is called.

Never use a hard substance in an attempt to remove a cinder from the eye. If you insist upon handling the eye, make sure your hands are clean.

It is far better to go to the nearest physician who will remove the object immediately and without any damage to the eye. Many serious and unnecessary results have come from neglect or carelessness in caring for the minor complaint.

Many people who have chronically inflamed eyes are constantly trying patent eye washes. This is not advisable. It is far better not to use any eye wash without first consulting your physician.

Answers to Health Queries
JACK Q.—Every summer I am annoyed with poison ivy. Can you advise a remedy that I might use?

2.—Can you advise me what to do when troubled with hiccoughs?

3.—Is it good to take a cathartic the night before going aboard ship? I never seem to be able to avoid seasickness.

A.—Yes. A local remedy may be applied on a cloth to the affected parts and greatly relieve the intense itching. For particulars send a self-addressed, stamped envelope, and repeat your question.

4.—Try pulling the tongue forward and holding it in that position for a few moments. If this doesn't prove helpful, there are other remedies.

5.—Try taking a tablespoonful of castor oil the night before sailing. Eat lightly and avoid liquids, especially milk and any food which may be tainted.

M. M. T. Q.—What would cause a severe pain in the neck back of the ear, accompanied by stiffness and pain in the back of the head and neck?

A.—This may be due to neuritis. Try to locate a possible source of infection.

TO THE RESCUE



"Murder at Eagle's Nest" By WINIFRED VAN DUZER

Following a party at Eagle's Nest, the home of wealthy Emily Hardy, the Baroness von Wiese is found murdered. Bisma Martin, young newspaper reporter, nicknamed "Bim," a guest at the party, assists her fiancé, Walter Vance, assistant chief of police, in unraveling the mystery. Bim identifies the shawl worn around the Baroness as Mary Frost's, Mary's husband, Ted, had been attentive to the Baroness in secret conversation and recalled the maid's scream when she, too, found them together. A strip of uniform linen is found in the shrubbery. The police learn that the Baroness' maid was not in her room that night. The butler denies receiving a note from the Baroness. Bim discovers cuts on the maid's head and arm. She refrains from telling the police. The doors to the Baroness' room are found locked from the inside and her jewels stolen. The jewel case is found outside the window. Bim believes they would have the guilty party if they could find the person whom the Baroness met in the summer house. The Frosts are called. Bim questions Mary about her shawl. Ted appears anxious, but Mary unperturbed, says she couldn't find the shawl and left without it. A figure appears at the window and disappears. Bim investigates and finds the butler in the pantry. It is learned that Mary Frost returned for her shawl.

GOVERNORS STUDY WELFARE PROBLEMS



Heads of seven Eastern States gathered at Albany, N. Y., to discuss problems of mutual interest, particularly what steps can be taken by the various commonwealths to avert periods of depression. The delegates to the conference shown are, (seated) Governor Norman Roosevelt of Rhode Island, Governor Roosevelt of New York, Governor Morgan Lanson of New Jersey, standing, left to right, Gov. L. Governor Lehman of New York, Governor Wilbur Cross of Connecticut, Charles Rittell (representing Governor Fincher of Pennsylvania) and Governor Joseph R. Ely of Massachusetts. The seventh State representative at the conference, S. F. Busch, representing Governor White of Ohio, is not in this group photograph.

BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Museum and some history:
You read in this series of the "bishop's pillow" in the Williams state university museum. The story of that marble slab from Africa has its roots running back to Salem and Marion county. And it is a strange and gripping story.

Rev. William Taylor was from the Baltimore conference. He was the first Methodist worker of any consequence in California; beginning his mission in the open, like the Salvation Army street meetings of the present day. He was there before the "California and Oregon conference" of 1849 officially assigned him his place at San Francisco, and the session of 1850 designated him pastor at the "San Francisco and Happy Valley."

When Bishop Simpson came to the coast in 1854, he found Rev. Taylor doing a great work in the crude but rapidly growing town that was to become the metropolis behind the Golden Gate.

Thirty years later, on May 24, 1884, Bishop Taylor had the satisfaction of consecrating William Taylor as a bishop, at the last general conference, which he presided, along with Bishops Fowler, Walden, Malliou and Nindes, all men of mark. Bishop Taylor was known as the "bishop of Africa," and sometimes the "bishop of all humanity."

The story of the "bishop's pillow" appeared in this column about a year ago, but some part of it will bear repeating. Rev. M. C. Wire, former pastor of the First Methodist church of Salem, said some time before that, in the California Christian Advocate:

"It was in the summer of 1889. The Oregon conference camp meeting was to be held in Canby and I was to be in charge. Bishop Taylor was just home from Africa and I could not think of no one else to moderate at the camp meeting who would be a greater uplift. So I wrote him, and, rather to my surprise, he consented to come. I met him at the station in Salem. Among his impedimenta was a very heavy package about the size of a teachers' Bible." (Rev. Wire and his helpers had put up a cloth tent on the camp ground for the bishop's use, and had written across the tent in large letters, "Bishop Taylor." He looked at it and said, "This is the first episcopal residence I ever had.")

The story of Rev. Wire continues: "One morning I went into his tent early to see if I could be here since yesterday afternoon."

"Some women," remarked Bim wisely, "don't wait for other work to be done before they get jealous. They know by intuition what to expect."

"Why, Bim?" giggled Em as Walter shook his head over the girl's perspicacity.

"Let's have Jane back," he directed, and Em again summoned the tall, pale-faced maid whose quiet modesty presented such a striking contrast with Imogene's pertness.

"You quarreled with the Baroness last night?" Walter began.

"No, sir. Madame was in a nervous state after her journey and it made her irritable. She found fault with the way I did her hair, but that was all, sir."

"She talked very loud when she found fault? Throw things?"

"Madam sometimes allowed herself to get out of control; that was not unusual for her. I do not recall that she threw anything."

"Did she discharge you? Did she say, 'after tonight you get out?'"

"Oh, no, sir. At least—" Bim faced that fear crossed the blue eyes she had looked at him briefly. "At least, not last night. She has said that sometimes, but only in her temper. She never meant it, sir."

"Did she strike you, Jane? Knock you down?"

Bim had no doubt about it; the flickered and was gone. But the low voice was very steady! "Never, sir. After all, Madame the Baroness was a lady."

Was there, Bim wondered, something sardonic in the veiled look the girl gave him as she left the library? And the cut on her temple, concealed so deftly beneath the drawn-down hair—what did that mean? Why, Bim asked herself, hadn't she thought to mention that cut and the long scratch on the girl's shoulder to Walter?

When Minutes Count
Now Walter had something to ask of Em. "We've overlooked one point, Mrs. Hardy. What time did the Baroness leave the party and where did she go when she left?"

"You know I've been wracking my brain about that ever since you stepped in here last night, Mr. Chief. She was on the terrace after Mary and Ted went for I saw her there talking to Bunny Baird. Then Ted took the Baroness in and the Baroness must have just sort of vanished. I'd say she disappeared about eleven although it might have been about the time by then. It might have been nearly half past eleven—I can't say. I don't know where she went either though now I suppose it was into the garden."

"She could," mused Walter, "have walked along the corridor and reached through the door of the dressing room for the shawl—if it was there at the time and gone on out while Imogene was out just before Mrs. Frost returned at eleven-thirty. Only someone must have seen her. It stands to reason that one of the guests or the servants must have seen the Baroness go into the garden; they must have caught sight of the person she went to meet."

It was then that Miss Laura Allan arrived. (To Be Continued Tomorrow)

Yesterdays

February 3, 1906
About 60 persons attended the entertainment given by the Y. M. C. A. "Red" and about 200 were turned away because of lack of seating capacity. An interesting program contained numbers by Olive Rigby, Mrs. Myra Wiggins, Edgar F. Averill, Miss Chapman, Lois Peobles and the blind school glee club.

Marion county expended \$45,856.40 in 1905, according to a report just compiled. Lane, Douglas and Baker county were the only others to spend more, with exception of Multnomah county.

Two freight cars were derailed at Aumsville. No one was hurt.

The government Indian training school at Chemawa received 18 new pupils, brought here from the south.

SPONSORS PROGRAM
DALLAS, Feb. 2.—On Friday evening, February 5 the music committee of the Dallas Methodist church will sponsor an entertainment in which Mrs. Walter Johnston, reader and impersonator will be the chief participant. Mrs. Johnston has given two hundred such programs in Idaho, more than three hundred in Oregon, and more than one hundred in Washington. The program will include musical numbers by local talent.