

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sweeps Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

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The Pension Grab Survives

PRESIDENT HOOVER had the courage to veto a pension grab enacted as special legislation. The general pension laws are adequate to meet virtually every case of need arising among those who have served under the colors. But ever since the pension system was started unworthy claimants have through pressure on congress gotten special legislation to provide them with a pension from the government. After the Civil war the pension grab grew to a national scandal. Men who had been deserters got their names on the pension rolls; and others who had been dishonorably discharged drew money from the government the same as those who bore the wounds of battle.

The immediate responsibility for this graft lies with the individual grafters themselves; but there is a serious responsibility resting on the congressmen and senators who connive at such raids on the treasury. Either they make no investigation of the merits of the case, or making them are willing to compound the offense by introducing and pushing pension measures that they know are vile.

The country is generous with those justly entitled to compensation. The general laws are liberal in their scope; and there are doubtless special cases worthy of government aid. But when special legislation includes cases as objectionable as those cited by the president in his veto message then the country should back up the veto and force congress to weed out the undeserving from its pension legislation. Read what the government investigators found about some of those who were listed to receive these pensions:

"A proposed pension for a man who was court-martialed for drunkenness and conduct prejudicial to good order, sentenced to six months confinement, and whose conduct during confinement was so bad that he was finally discharged without honor for the good of the service.

"A proposed pension to a man who was discharged without honor because of chronic alcoholism.

"A proposed pension to a widow whose claim was filed five years after the death of the veteran, and upon call having been made for evidence of legal widowhood, the claimant abandoned her claim for a period of 25 years. A recent investigation indicates the claimant was never the legal wife of the soldier."

The country is spending over a billion dollars a year on pensions. This is paid without grudging though it is meaning heavy increases in public taxation. Veterans organizations themselves should be as vigilant to protect the pension fund from these common grafters as to further the claims of those genuinely worthy.

No Will to Peace in Europe

SECRETARY STIMSON will return from Europe empty-handed. He went ostensibly as delegate to the disarmament conference at Geneva. Actually his purpose, it may be inferred, was to confer with European statesmen on pressing questions of war debts, reparations, the far eastern question, as well as the immediate issues of the disarmament conference. A conference for this purpose was set for today, but the premier of France refused to attend. France, in other words, stands alone. Secure in her hegemony on the continent at the present time, France will not yield any point for the help of Europe as a whole.

Germany was willing to confer with Chancellor Bruening in attendance. Italy had her foreign minister Grandi deputed to represent her. Prime Minister MacDonald, head of the British government was on hand and ready to sit. Premier Tardieu wired he could not come; he was ill—"doctor's orders". Were all other French statesmen sick too? The doctors, the world will instantly decide, are those dictators of French foreign policy at the Quai d'Orsay.

The premier of France may be ill; but Europe is sicker. Meantime the end of the Hoover moratorium year draws on apace. Nothing has been done to readjust war reparations. Repudiation is imminent, the effect of which on international credit no one can foresee.

Secretary Stimson will come home, his efforts to ameliorate conditions thwarted. He will come home and Europe will go on under the spell of national hates and fears, go on to collapse or to another war which may bring collapse.

Heater for Commissioner

AMONG the candidates for county commissioner is W. A. Heater, prominent farmer in the Union hills district. Heater has been a resident of the county his entire life, and has made a distinct success of his private business. He has the largest strawberry tract in the county. His place is well improved and well kept up; a real credit to the owner.

Heater impresses us as a man of considerable force, a man who would not be a mere "yes" man but one with ideas and strength to stand by his convictions. Those who have been acquainted with him over a long term of years speak highly of his integrity and dependability.

Heater is not running as a candidate of any group or faction, nor of any particular section, although he resides in the south part of the county which has not had a commissioner for years. Believing that Heater is well qualified, a man of good judgment who believes in progress but is not swept away by half-baked ideas The Statesman is disposed to recommend him to the voters of the county. The office of county commissioner is an important one, which shares in the handling of hundreds of thousands of dollars a year. So it is highly desirable to have men of known character and good sense to fill the position.

The incumbent, John Porter of Silverton, has rendered faithful service, and is a candidate for re-election; but we believe that Heater as a man of greater vigor would render the county superior service in this office.

The Lions club bulletin for the week contains a suggestion of merit, which is that the three service clubs exchange visitors. Thus one week a group from the Lions club would visit Kiwanis club, one from the Kiwanis would take luncheon with Rotarians while a delegation from the latter would break bread with the Lions. Since the chief value of luncheon clubs is fraternal fellowship the suggestion seems worth while. It might also be extended to churches, with a group of Baptists attending a Quaker service and Presbyterians going to the Nazarene church one Sunday. People live so much in grooves they become suspicious of the other fellow. "Boarding round" might prove broadening.

In effect the school board said: "We come to bury Caesar, not to praise him."

There might be a reprint of "Here Faith in Massachusetts" with foreword by Al Smith.

Yesterdays

... Of Old Salem
From Talks from The Statesman
of Earlier Days

April 28, 1907
Governor Chamberlain will address the inmates of the soldiers' home at Roseburg today and inspect the institution. Tomorrow he will go to Drain to attend the meeting of the board of regents of the Central Oregon State Normal school.

The farmers of Marion county are reeling at the prospects for the harvest, as from present conditions the outlook in general is most promising for bumper crops.

On Friday, April 26, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Rowland celebrated their golden wedding at Eugene. They are pioneers of '52, having been married at Pleasant Hill 50 years ago.

April 29, 1923
Work is being carried on at the Salem auto park, to repair the damage done by the flood last winter, since a heavier season is expected this year than ever before.

An extraordinary renaissance of volleyball is taking place in Salem starting Wednesday at Eugene. The Ladd & Bush institution in March reached its 67th milestone. That business is the oldest in Salem under the control of a single family, and no bank in Oregon exceeds it in term of years in such control.

County School Superintendent Mrs. F. M. Brown left Thursday on a visit to the schools at Hult. Supervisor Ballie started the same day for a complete visitation of the schools along the Pacific highway.

New Views

Yesterday Statesman reporters asked: "In your opinion, when will business show a decided upturn?"

Lawrence Gooding, salesman: "I can hardly say. Many people seem to think the worst has not yet come, but I cannot be so pessimistic about it. I believe conditions are better now than they have been. Building permits, for one thing, are showing up better; though of course that may be only a part of the season's expected upturn."

Arthur Bahn, paper distributor: "I cannot say when good times will return, for our business is not so much affected by lower than formerly, but the volume to date for the year is slightly ahead of 1931."

Frank P. Marshall, business agent, Salem trades and labor council: "I don't know about that. Our business is getting better. I look around July 1 for things to get pretty good—really good."

Daily Thought

"So much grace and wit and poetry were rarely or never blended in so young a child, and to us his form and features were the perfection of beauty. We can never have another child; and life cannot be long enough to offset, though it will temper this sorrow. It differs in kind as well as degree from all that we have heretofore experienced."—Horace Greeley.

MRS. BIRD ENTERTAINS

PIONEER, April 28 — Mrs. Roy Bird gave a birthday dinner in honor of Virginia McCarter at her home. The dinner guests were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bird, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bird of Dallas and Mr. and Mrs. Chester Gilliam of Perrydale. Later in the evening Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Olmstead and Harold Bird of Dallas and Dorothy Osborn of Albany, and Mr. and Mrs. Darel Bird and son came to wish Virginia many happy birthdays.

Daily Health Talks

By ROYAL S. COPELAND, M. D.

MUCOUS colitis is an obstinate disease that has taxed modern medicine. It is a common ailment, and to many persons it is a serious matter, for it is difficult to cure.

It is more frequently heard of among Americans than among citizens of other lands, and this may be due to the American manner of living. It is seldom seen where living conditions are simple and where food and eating are given the proper attention.

Mucous colitis is an inflammatory condition of the intestines. This inflammation or irritation may be due to various causes. In this condition large quantities of mucus pass from the body. The disease is found in both children and adults, and is associated with digestive disturbances. Often it is caused by excessive gastric and intestinal secretions, found in nervous and hysterical persons.

The attacks may occur in paroxysms with colicky pain. In these attacks the pain is severe and may be confused with appendicitis. Mucous colitis should never be neglected.

T. H. Q.—What causes varicose veins?
A.—This is usually caused by increased tension in the veins, due to either constant external pressure, some obstruction of the deep veins, or, as in many cases to habitual over-exertion, such as long standing.

HERE'S HOW

By EDSON



PUT A LITTLE POWDER IN YOUR GLASS OF WATER AND YOU HAVE LEMONADE—THEY'RE MAKING POWDERED LEMON JUICE IN FLORIDA NOW!

DEATH? A LOGO MILE AWAY!

LESTER BARLOW OF STAMFORD, CONN. HAS INVENTED A NEW MEANS OF RESTRICTION

Tomorrow: "Warships Controlled by Radio"

BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

The burned capitol:

The 1931 Annual of Ladd & Bush, recently off the press, is as usual devoted to Oregon historical events, especially those centering around Salem, where the Ladd & Bush institution in March reached its 67th milestone. That business is the oldest in Salem under the control of a single family, and no bank in Oregon exceeds it in term of years in such control.

This latest Annual features Oregon's first state house, located on the site of the present capitol, and thus contributes reliable history not before so well assembled, and some of it new. Therein is a picture of the first capitol, never before given. It is not from a photograph, nor even from an outline sketch or elevation of the architect. No photograph is known to exist, and the architect made no drawing of the elevation, or geometrical proportions.

From the official records concerning the measurements, materials and style of architecture, Murray Wade, Salem artist, made a drawing from the "cut" of the picture of the capitol in the Annual, and this was submitted to J. A. Baker, who was a boy of 16 past in Salem when the building was completed; or rather nearly completed. He will be 93 July 23 next—the oldest person in Salem in point of continuous residence. In fact he was here before this was Salem, when it was called "The Institute," for the Oregon Institute, which by change of name became the Willamette university. Mr. Baker says his boyish fancy was greatly impressed by the imposing appearance of the old capitol.

This is not strange. Says the Annual: "In the history of this state house (old capitol) one reads remarks on 'building it not for the day but for the needs of the growing future state also.' And the site was 75 feet by 50. Says the annual: 'The floor plan could have been laid out in our office (of the Ladd & Bush bank) and a margin left on all sides.'"

The fight for the construction of the old capitol was a long and bitter one, as was that for the location of the capitol. The latter did not end until after the territory became a state. The Annual traces the stages of this contest up to the time of the destruction of the old capitol by incendiary fire. Bancroft gives the date as the night of December 30, 1855. That is not quite right. It was the night of the day of Saturday, December 29, though the destruction was accomplished mostly in the early hours of Sunday, the 30th.

The details of this long fight over building the old capitol are too long for this series. The Annual gives all the high light features of it. Why did an incendiary fire to burn the building? It was no doubt a sympathizer with Corvallis, which was fighting against Salem for the location of the seat of government—and the people of that city thought they had won the contest, when the legislature passed a law in favor of the upper valley city. And in fact the state offices were removed to Corvallis in 1855. But congress ordered them back to Salem. The legislature had met in the session of 1855-6 on the first Monday in December of the former year in Corvallis, and organized, when the order to come back to Salem was received. A new location law was passed and signed December 12, relocating the capital at Salem. So feeling was running high.

It was at the session beginning Monday, December 4, 1854, in Salem, that the legislature voted to move the capital to Corvallis. That session was held in the old capitol, finished sufficiently so that the chamber of the council (senate) and the hall of the house were shabby, the rest of the building being in course of construction.

Under that date line, Salem, Dec. 4, 1854, a reporter of The Statesman gave the following news item: "The territorial legislative assembly convened this morning in the new and commodious 'state house' lately built here having been finished in advance of the other apartments of the building for the purpose. The hall appropriated to the house of representatives is on the second floor, facing the north—the council chamber directly over it.

"Much credit is due Governor Curry, not alone for his personal exertions, in which he has been unremitting, to have the apartments ready for the reception of the members at this time, but also for the air of comfort, and spirit of accommodation which pervades the internal arrangement of the furniture, etc., in both houses. What, however, strikes us as the most creditable and novel arrangement in this respect is the manner in which every member is furnished with a writing desk and a complete set of writing materials directly in front of his seat. This is a luxury which few legislative houses (the reports) have seen can boast of, even in old communities.

"The name of Oregon sounds so territorially rude to stranger ears that one might naturally be inclined to look for a capitol corresponding with the general people and the country. But a near approach to such a building would dispel any such ideas. The MASSIVE building resting on its solid cut stone basement—its yet unfinished condition and the newness of its face is not emblematic of rudeness, but of the stalwart proportions of the young and rising territory and embryo state of which it is the capitol.

"Secretary Curry has been unremitting in his endeavors to provide a suitable quarters for the legislative assembly, and whatever was necessary for the comfortable and convenient transaction of the business of legislation.

"When the capitol is completed, the two halls, (now but rough plastered) hard finished and furnished, with the committee rooms, library, etc., it will add much to the comfort of members and officers, and greatly facilitate the transaction of business."

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"EMBERS of LOVE" By HAZEL LIVINGSTON



Lily Lou Lansing, pretty, young telephone operator, lives with her married sister in moderate circumstances. She is torn between desire for an operatic career and love for wealthy Ken Sargent. Following a party at Ken's home, Lily Lou realizes they are united socially and decides to give him up. Ken eventually has a change of heart and accepts his proposal of marriage. A few days later they are married at Woodlark. They break the news, personally, to Lily Lou's parents and send a wire to Ken's folks. That night, both are uneasy as to the Sargents' reception of the news.

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN
They had breakfast sent up. It was Ken's idea. He said you always had breakfast in your room when you stayed at hotels, and he laughed at her because she hopped out of bed and hid in the bathroom while the elderly bellhop was arranging the tray on the card table he had brought.

Lily Lou didn't mind his laughing. She laughed too. She felt as though she had been married for ages—not just one day. "I'm Mrs. Kentfield Carey Sargent, Third," she thought, combing her hair before the small bathroom mirror, and was a little surprised to see that she looked just the same—just Lily Lou Lansing, not married looking at all.

Ken had a San Francisco morning paper. "There's not a thing about our wedding... must be an awfully early edition," he said. Lily Lou put down her coffee cup. "Why—did you think—?" "I naturally expected Dad would give out the news—"

He had another morning paper sent up, but there was nothing in that, either. After that he seemed anxious to be on the way, so Lily Lou packed, feeling respectable and domestic as she folded Ken's bathrobe, and laid it in his suitcase. He drove very fast. Much faster than there was any necessity for, she thought. "I'm kind of anxious to get home, and get it over with," he admitted.

When they reached Oakland, and drove down the tree-shaded street that led to his home she began to tremble. She had felt his uneasiness all the long drive. She looked up at him, a little pathetically. He shouldn't be so thoughtful of her, she thought, but uneasy when they were, you might say, on their wedding trip... just married yesterday....

"Gee, you look glum. Mother won't bite you," he said, as they stopped in front of the Sargent place, and Lily Lou stepped out of the car. "I'm not glum, I'm just scared!" So after all, they went in laughing.

Ken said, "Let's do this thing right and ring the bell, slipping his keys back into his pocket. Annie, the maid, opened the door. At sight of her maid, square face and auburn hair—Annie—the same old Annie he'd known for years, Ken's happiness returned. He grabbed her, both arms around her square, unyielding waist—"Kiss the bridegroom, Annie!" he shouted. "Don't faint, you squarehead! Didn't you know I was married?"

The maid closed her mouth, stared, round eyed and frightened, her keys back into his pocket. "What?—What?—What?—You're married?" "Yes, and this is Mrs. Sargent. Lily Lou, this is Annie Nelson—used to be my best girl before I met you—good old Annie!" Mrs. Sargent must have heard them. She was coming down the stairs, her hand on the fine old balustrade, a grave smile on her lips.

The deed covered the block where the present capitol stands. It ran to the territory of Oregon, and of course came to the state when Oregon became a member of the sisterhood of states. (Continued tomorrow.)

E. M. BAILEY DIES SUDDENLY AT FARM
HAYESVILLE, April 23 — E. M. Bailey, a resident here for the past 20 years, died suddenly this morning. He had gone out to work in the strawberry fields and when he failed to appear with others at the noon hour search was instituted. The body was found by Mrs. Bailey on a stack of straw in the barn.

He was last seen about 10 o'clock, and found shortly after 12 o'clock. Mr. Bailey had been in ill health all winter. He would have been 55 years old Monday, May 2.

He was married here in June, 1902, to Miss Sarah McMillan, upon his arrival in the west from Iowa. They have lived since that time on the same farm just north of the highway.

Besides his widow, he leaves a daughter, Marguerite, at home; a sister, Mrs. D. J. Fury of West Virginia, and two half brothers, Lloyd of Oregon City and Joe of Florida.

The remains are at the Salem Mortuary funeral home in Salem, but no definite arrangements for service had been made today.



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