

The Oregon Statesman

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

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.

CHARLES A. SPRAGUE Editor-Manager SHEDDEN F. SACKETT Managing Editor

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Deflating Education?

If the educational leaders of Oregon are too stiff-necked they will be bowled over just as the good roads boosters were. We notice an attitude on the part of some sincere advocates of education to hang on to all they have in apparent anticipation of coming back to get something more when the sun may be shining a little more brightly.

Consider the growth of costs of elementary and high schools in Oregon in the past decade. The total property taxes for such purposes on the 1921 roll was \$13,242,983.37. The amount increased to \$19,479,748.30 on the 1931 roll. This is an increase of 47%.

Not only has the school cost grown compared with previous years, but it is consuming a larger proportion of the tax budget. The amount of property taxes raised for school purposes on the 1921 roll was only 33% of the total, while schools absorbed 45.324% of the property taxes raised on the 1931 tax rolls.

There is great and growing pressure for tax reduction; and a drive is made to wipe out all state property tax. But a study of the figures will reveal at once that the only place for any substantial savings in property taxes must come in the educational budgets which now absorb nearly 50% of the total.

We are opposed to legislative bills which will wreck the schools or make blind slashes at expenditures. The Stockdale bill however, which proposes a vote on the county unit plan is worthy of careful consideration. The real issue however will come in the local school districts at budget-making time. Much will depend on the course of general conditions in the next six months.

The times call for wise counsel among the school leaders of the state, a willingness to share burdens rather than a disposition to make no concessions to necessity. Our schools are our first love; but they cannot hope to remain permanently on false plateaus of cost.

Business Ethics

As we listened the other day to senators exorcise the utilities for their sins we wondered if the senators reflected at all on the fact that utilities are no more wicked than other business agencies, large and small.

For the activities of the utilities are part and parcel of the general business milieu. The same instincts for acquisition of large profits rule industrial enterprises as well as those performing so-called public services.

We are not here proposing solutions, nor advocating revolutions from the present "economic system". We are seeking merely to stimulate thought. Why single out the utilities alone for social control when excesses abound in many other fields of corporate and private enterprise?

Take three gears: label one Economic Efficiency, another Personal and Social Ethics, the third Political control. In the past the small gear of Ethics has had a hard time meshing with the big, whirling gear of Economic Efficiency.

Unbalancing Religions

A Kentuckian is in jail charged with the murder of his own mother as the climax of a mountain cult ritual. He goes through jazzy motions in his prison cell, or did until he was handcuffed to the bars.

Religion deals with the emotions of men and women. Some preachers base their whole appeal to the feelings of their auditors, working them up to a state of intoxication. Such preachers exercise almost mesmeric powers over their listeners.

Watchful Waiting



HEALTH

By Royal S. Copeland, M.D.

HOW MANY hours of sleep should I have? That is a question I am often asked. There can be no set answer. It all depends on certain factors, such as heredity, age, occupation and the general physical condition.

Yesterdays

... Of Old Salem

Town Talks from The Statesman of Earlier Days

February 19, 1908 Salem people who have memory tied up in the Merchants' National Bank of Portland will be pleased to learn that the institution is to reopen next week.

February 12, 1923 Final passage of the revised administrative code of the World War veterans' state aid commission will make unnecessary the \$120,000 appropriation requested by the commission.

Relief legislation for Astoria was approved by the way and means committee last night providing that the state purchase Astoria bonds in the sum of \$250,000 without interest requirements for a certain period of years.

Answers to Health Queries M. J. Q.—How much should a girl aged 18, 5 feet 3 inches tall weigh? A.—She should weigh about 115 pounds.

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HEALTH BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

John Knight, pioneer John Knight, pioneer of the Salem city council, and in 1832, in that capacity, bought the first modern fire engine for the capital city.

For 30 years, John Knight was a Salem fire fighter, a member of the old Tiger engine company that manned the ropes in calls for help in putting out blazes in the glorious, glamorous days before there was a paid fire department.

He was a charter member of the Salem Odd Fellows' lodge, and went through all the chairs. After serving out his last term as sheriff, the Knight family moved to his farm in the Lake Lash district, five miles north of Salem.

In 1910, Mr. Knight was made bailiff of the United States court at Portland, and he served in that capacity and as clerk for 20 years, until December, 1929, when on account of failing health he retired, and moved back to Salem, where he and Mrs. Knight resided in the South Commercial street home of the Taylors, where he died, and where Mrs. Knight continues to live.

The Salem Elkite, weekly news sheet of Salem Lodge No. 328, of Elk, in its February 8 issue, devoted large space to the news of the passing of John Knight. One gleams the following therefrom:

"He was a charter member of Salem Lodge No. 328. He was an only charter member who was an Elk at the time of the institution of our lodge. It was primarily due to his efforts that an Elk lodge was established in Salem. He has always attended on Past Exalted Rulers night, and has always retained his interest in 328."

The term "primary power" means generally the minimum power developed at the lowest stage of river flow, and running 24 hours per day at uniform rate.

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"The Challenge of Love" By Warwick Deeping

Dr. John Wolfe, young and capable assistant of the famous old Dr. on the green... The young doctor's greatest obstacle in trying to better conditions in the bitter resentment of the people themselves.

Robert Fleming's eyes fell. He was a bigger man than Wolfe, both in actual bulk and in reputation, but he felt smaller and slighter than the man at his side.

CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO Robert Fleming had a glimpse of the young doctor's face, and queer shiver of awe went through him.

Wolfe's hand went out frankly. "I hope so." And they parted with a keen meeting of the eyes.

A woman's head appeared in the doorway. Robert Fleming's eyes dimly, and a good starting at Wolfe and the boy.

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21 Years Ago GRANITE TEMPLE BUILT OVER LINCOLN'S CABIN



From the Nation's News Files, Hodgenville, Ky., Feb. 12, 1912

Visitors admired the granite temple built over the log cabin in which Lincoln was born. It was presented to the Nation by the Lincoln Farm Association last November 9th.

So that a Rigdon Service shall always stand as a final fitting tribute, we strive each day to perfect our knowledge and professional conduct.

W T RIGDON & SON INC FUNERALS SINCE 1891 SALEM OREGON