

# The Oregon Statesman

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"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Ave"  
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## Van Buren and the Panic of 1837

THE worst depression the country had prior to 1929 was probably that of 1837, during the administration of Martin Van Buren, who had won his election by being politically nimble. Van Buren's sole claim to his nation's gratitude was his management of affairs during that panic. Some time we may review a recent biography of Van Buren by Holmes Alexander; but at this time we merely want to quote from the book the story of the 1837 depression and how Van Buren met the problems. To quote:

"In the north, factories, and especially textile mills . . . shut their doors. Employees were turned out on the streets where whole families vainly sought refuge in overcrowded almshouses, willingly committed felonies to get into jail . . . In the south cotton growers . . . saw their product which had been selling for 20c a pound go begging at 10 and 8 . . . Financial disturbances the country had experienced before but nothing so terrifying and all-inclusive as this one . . . Here was starvation in a land of plenty; bloodshed inflicted by uniformed soldiers in times of peace; universal bankruptcy in a nation that owned the richest resources on the whole wide earth . . .

"It was, nevertheless, a matter of extraordinary good fortune for the country over which he presided that Martin Van Buren laid aside his wizardry at the time he did. Unqualifiedly and ungrudgingly may it be said that no president, before or afterwards, ever faced a disheartening problem more stoutly, or carried one through to solution in more masterful fashion . . . If Martin Van Buren ever believed anything about statecraft, it was that government was meant to be supported by the country, not country by the government. As he saw the depression of '37 it was a distemper which only time and retrenchment could cure. . . . He purposely procrastinated until the first hysteria should subside. And when he did act it was to meet the furor with a combination of nonchalance and severity which were in themselves reassuring. He called for a restoration of confidence by no demagogic appeal nor by any masking of facts, but by a practical diagnosis of the ailment. And he prescribed a remedy that was no sugar-coated quackery, but painfully and distastefully sound.

"What are a president's constitutional rights and duties in such a crisis raises a question which a later century has never solved. Given on one hand a scrap of paper called the constitution and on the other a pressing emergency, the several chief magistrates who suffered panic administrations have showed several responses. But of them all there can be little doubt that the easiest and most popular thing a president can do is to reach into the public vaults and dole out government money and credit. In such a policy he will be supported by all enterprises which hope to be benefitted, by all politicians who hope for reelection, by all ignorant and shiftless masses who merely understand that once they were hungry and now are fed.

"Still it remains a persistent fantasy that any large government possesses the golden touch, and the illusion increases in proportion to the country's distress. It requires a mental steadfastness on the part of any ruler not to be duped into this superstition. It requires a moral heroism of him to tell this unsavory truth to an impatient and infuriated public. Much easier and more expedient is it for him to accept the fable, or pretend that he does so; to be weak instead of strong, and shortsighted instead of farsighted. Temporary glory and gratitude will surely garland his name, if he patriotically mortgages the country and cry oblivion upon the inevitable day of reckoning."

Van Buren had been the least heroic of men, a political manipulator; but in his one great moment he showed "mental steadfastness and moral heroism." He fought the proposals of the Whigs to repeal the Specie Circular which called for payments in "hard money"; another distribution of federal largess through Clay's land bill; and a re-charter of Biddle's bank for the re-inflation of business. In his message when the congress convened Van Buren spoke in a "passage which might have fallen directly from the lips of the Sage of Monticello":

"Those who look to this government for specific aid . . . lose sight of the ends for which it was created, and the powers with which it is clothed . . . It was not intended to confer special favors on individuals or on any classes of them; to create systems of agriculture, manufactures or trade . . .

"All communities are apt to look to government for too much . . . especially at periods of sudden embarrassment or distress. But this ought not to be. The framers of our excellent constitution, and the people who approved it with calm and sagacious deliberation, acted at the time on a sounder principle. They wisely judged that the less government interferes with private pursuits the better for general prosperity. It is not its legitimate object to make men rich, or to repair by direct grants of money or legislation in favor of particular pursuits, losses not incurred in public service . . . Its real duty—that duty the performance of which makes a good government the most precious of human blessings—is to exact and enforce a system of general laws . . . and to leave every citizen and every interest to reap, under its benign protection, the reward of virtue, industry and prudence."

All who have followed the trend of events may tell how far from this standard of government defined by Martin Van Buren the country has traveled. Grover Cleveland adhered to it. Pres. Hoover altered it by making the government an active agent for recovery; but it remained for President Roosevelt to scrap this conception of government completely and open the bounties of the treasury to the impoverished.

The score is not yet tallied. We shall see what we shall see. There remains a respectable body of opinion which feels that Van Buren's fundamental doctrine was correct; and that the government should seek by general laws to set up a basis of fair economic opportunity, and then let every citizen reap "under its benign protection, the reward of virtue, industry and prudence." In an age when thrift is discredited and prudent and frugal management derided it is indeed interesting to hear this echo from the past,—a past, which may in time justify itself again in the public mind.

## Utility District

THE hangover of "free power without cost to the taxpayers" is what prompts the formation of a people's utility power district which would embrace Marion and join with other counties or districts in the distribution of Bonneville power. The procedure has been the preparing and signing of petitions and submitting them to the state hydro-electric commission. The commission, as required by law, has appointed a date for hearing in Marion county on Monday evening, Dec. 16 at St. Mary's school auditorium, Mount Angel. Supporters and opponents of the proposed utility district may then appear and be heard. Following this hearing the commission will render its opinion on the advisability of forming the district from engineering and economic aspects. After this opinion is filed the sponsors of the district may demand an election at which time the voters would decide whether to create the district or not.

This brings home directly the issue of public ownership of an electric system to serve this territory. If created then the district may by vote of the people bond the property of the district to finance the enterprise. In the case of Marion county it could issue bonds up to \$3,500,000. These bonds would be a direct obligation of the district, to be paid by general taxes if the earnings of the plant proved inadequate.

It is well for the public at large to become acquainted with what is going on. Heretofore the meetings have been held chiefly in rural communities, where most of the signers were obtained. Most of the interest appears to be in the country. The voters will eventually have to decide whether they want to go into the electric power business or not; so they should seek to inform themselves as to the proceedings and the problems which are involved.

Resettlement is no new thing in this country. It has been going on ever since the colony at Jamestown was founded and the pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock. Each new advance westward was "resettlement." As a rule the people may be depended on to make changes when it is to their interest to make them. When subsidized by the government the changes may prove beneficial; but the human material may be such as to fail in most any environment.

## The Great Game of Politics

By FRANK R. KENT

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### The Non-Existent Line

Washington, Dec. 12. THE slicker new deal politicians, such as the learned Mr. Daniel Roper, believe in playing both ends against the middle. Hence they exude reassuring words about business recovery and "breathing spells." Their game will be promoted by the forthcoming financial message of the president, in which the budget for 1937-38 is to be a balanced one. The astute politician, however, is to be a balanced one. The astute politician, however, is to be a balanced one. The astute politician, however, is to be a balanced one.

DESPITE this little conservative byplay, it is becoming increasingly clear that the real reliance for the Roosevelt reelection is in arraying the laboring and agricultural elements solidly for him as against the business men, doctors, lawyers and professional people generally, among whom anti-new deal sentiment is concededly strong. The effort is to draw a line which will put all the business and professional people on one side, all the laborers and farmers on the other, the theory being that the latter far outnumber the former.

THERE is some doubt about that even if the line could be drawn, but the interesting question is whether it can be. It never has been in the past, though the effort has been made often. It is, in fact, instinctive with a certain type of politician, and usually indicative of weakness. Fundamentally the idea is that the laborers and farmers are essentially saps in politics, who can be tied to any cause if they are sufficiently inflamed against the possessors of wealth. It is the old ploy against the rich idea, basic in the Bryan campaigns of 1896, 1904 and 1908, and in the La Follette campaign of 1924.

THE reason it has always failed in this country is that such a line of division is nonexistent. Our people do not divide in that way. There is as much political intelligence—often more—among the laborers and farmers as among the business and professional men. They are swayed by the same influences and prejudices; in the main their interests are identical. There has never been a campaign in which all of one class was on one side and all the other on the opposite. On the contrary, they divide—or at least have divided—on issues and men in about the same proportion. They see through or fall for the fakes and frauds with about equal facility. Any study of election history disproves the existence of the dividing line. Despite this record, the new deal weight is behind the attempt to draw the line in the coming campaign. The argument is that while Bryan and La Follette were unable to do it, Roosevelt can—and for two reasons.

ONE is that in former years the effort was made by an out trying to win the support of the masses by an in, who has the advantage of the federal machine being with him instead of against him. The other reason is the political poisons of the bonuses to the farmers and the support with federal funds of millions of voters through relief and public works. The contention is this combination of federal machine and federal money puts Mr. Roosevelt in a better position to draw the line than anyone who ever tried before. In any event, the clear antagonism to him of the business classes makes the effort essential. At least that is the new deal notion.

EVIDENCE of this is overwhelming. It is found in the color of the publicity and the utterances of the spokesmen, including Mr. Roosevelt himself, but particularly in the statements of the Tugwells, the Hopkinses, Ickeses, Williamses and other merry disciples of the "new order," who openly appeal for a "worker-farmer" alliance against "business greed." That is clearly the keynote of the campaign. It is upon that note the bumptious Mr. Farley and Senator Hugo Black, of Alabama, the most blatant business brawler and publicity seeker in the senate, sing whenever they appear before a microphone. Before long they will all be doing it—shouting about the "bloated bankers" and "Well-warmed members of overstocked clubs" who are against the man who rescues the country from the evil rich — and spends his vacations on Vincent Astor's yacht. It is cheap stuff and it is old. It has never worked in the past, but one never can tell — perhaps it will now.

### Twenty Years Ago

December 13, 1915

The Willamette athletic grounds have been named "Sweetland Field" after Dr. G. J. Sweetland, former coach.

John Witzcombe, brother of the governor, passed away in Portland today.

Women opposed to suffrage for their sex are holding a national convention in Washington, D. C.

### Ten Years Ago

December 13, 1925

Sorority open house was held last night on the Willamette campus.

An editorial commends the decision of the Rock Island railroad to present diplomas to graduate mechanics.

## "They Tryin' to Steal the Show Again?"



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## "WIFE IN CUSTODY" by BEATRICE LUBITZ

CHAPTER XXVI  
There was no further doubt about it. Helen was to be a mother. Dr. Johnson was a fatherly, good-natured fellow with a bluff, hearty manner.

"Go home and enjoy yourself," he advised her. "Exercise in moderation; live naturally, eat what you like. There's nothing to it. In a day or two you'll be as usual. You'll be over it by noon! Laugh a lot. Laughter makes a good baby, and go places, do things. There's nothing to it, I tell you. And you'll come to see me every other week and tell me how fine you feel!"

He sent the two girls home in high spirits. "Isn't it marvelous," Helen exclaimed. "I know I'm going to love every minute of it. Belle! A baby of our own! I'm so thrilled I could cry and shout for joy."

"When are you going to tell Walter?" Helen's eyes grew dreamy. "I'll tell him soon. Maybe Sunday. I wish Agnes weren't here. She brings the argument. The argument that she's against it. She's against it for her forehead when she begins to nag about the shops. Oh, I want to get Walter in one of our golden moods. Sunday, when he doesn't rush off. I'll tell him, oh, so beautifully. . . he'll be so pleased."

"I'll bet he will. Honestly, I'm so thrilled I can hardly keep from bubbling it out," said Belle. "Oh, no, you mustn't. I don't want him to have a hint of it before I tell him."

"I wouldn't spoil your effect for the world, darling. You shall have all the joy of telling him yourself. When they got back to the house Agnes said curiously, "A Dr. Johnson called up to say that you forgot the prescription he wanted you to have, so I sent Anton over for it in the small car. What prescription, Helen? Are you sick?"

Belle muttered something like "damn" under her breath. "Yes, I guess that's it," Helen agreed, relieved. "I'm going to rest more. Thanks for sending Anton, Agnes. It was very thoughtful of you."

That night as they sat at dinner Helen was in a panic lest Agnes mention her visit to the doctor. She chattered with forced gaiety all through dinner so that Agnes wouldn't be able to tell her of the visit. She wanted to tell it to him alone. She could imagine, his tender kisses when he heard.

Suddenly the table began to go round and round. Helen felt the food press against her chest. She was dizzy, her head was spinning. She held herself by the napkins, her face white with a wave. She couldn't hold it back any longer. She dashed out of the dining room.

"Helen, what's the trouble, darling? Is she going to have a baby, I guess?" Agnes commanded, "she's going to have a baby, I guess?"

Walter rushed out after Helen. He found her in the bathroom leaning weakly against the tub. "Oh, darling, is it true?" "Just an upset stomach," she gasped, trying to smile. "I feel better."

"Agnes said you were going to have a baby, dearest. Oh, my dear, are you?" "Agnes told you! Oh, Walter! I wanted to tell you so beautifully," Helen burst into tears. "She's gathering her into his arms and sobbed her."

"What difference how you told me? I'm so happy. I'm so pleased and thrilled. Oh, Helen, our own little baby. Stop crying, darling, you'll make yourself sick." "I wanted to tell you," she sobbed brokenly. "Not in the bathroom. I

## Peggy Paulos Tells Details

### Her Attorney Aids State in Seeking Facts of Mass Slaying

(Continued from Page 1)

"To my attorney, Mr. Horr," she said, "I tried several times to tell him and couldn't. Every time I went in I'd ask him some other question."

"Why did you make this confession? The special prosecutor inquired."

"I couldn't keep it any longer," Mrs. Paulos' voice shook with emotion. "He'd (Hall) threatened me and I knew he'd kill me if I didn't do something."

"As the jury filed out, Juror No. 1, W. D. Dobson, swung half around for a final look at her, sitting wilted on the witness chair."

Describing Bolcom's death in Mrs. Flieder's room, Mrs. Paulos had said:

"He (Hall) took Mr. Bolcom into the bedroom by the arm and led him. He had a gun in his hand," Mrs. Paulos hesitated.

"What then?" Greenwood pressed her.

"He left the door partly open. I saw him raise his hand as if he was going to strike something. There wasn't any outcry. Then I heard a thud."

Butts said after court adjourned, he intended to ask Mrs. Paulos on cross-examination, whether she really did go "with anyone to the Flieder home the night of March 28."

## Mrs. Tanner Wins In Recipe Contest

(Continued from Page 1)

30 minutes just before serving. Serve very hot with hard sauce or any desired pudding sauce.

Mrs. James Tanner  
975 N. 16th

Cranberry Pudding

1 cup butter  
1 cup sugar  
2 eggs, well beaten  
1 cup sifted flour  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
1 cup sweet milk

1 cup fresh cranberries, halved  
1/2 cup shortening and sugar, add beaten eggs. Sift flour and baking powder together and add alternately with milk. Fold in cut cranberries gently. Turn into a buttered mold, cover and steam 3 hours or until done. Serves 8 to 10. Serve with lemon hard sauce or the following lemon sauce:

Lemon Sauce  
1 tablespoon cornstarch  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 teaspoon grated lemon rind  
2 tablespoons lemon juice  
2 tablespoons butter  
1 cup boiling water

Dash of salt  
Mix cornstarch, sugar and grated rind. Add water gradually, stirring constantly. Boil 6 minutes. Remove from heat, add salt, nutmeg, butter and lemon juice. Serve hot. This color combination is fine for Christmas.

Eva Nelson  
Route 7, Box 14

Snow Balls  
4 tablespoons Snow  
Few drops lemon juice  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup milk  
1/2 cup sifted flour  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
2 egg whites  
1/2 teaspoon vanilla

Cream butter, add lemon juice. Gradually add sugar. Sift flour, baking powder and salt together. Add alternately with milk to butter mixture. Add vanilla and fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Fill greased mold 2/3 full, cover tightly and steam 20 minutes. Serve hot with lemon or any fruit sauce. Makes six to eight snow balls.

Mrs. Paul E. Robinson  
Independence, Ore.

## Bond Maturity Schedule For Water Issue Topic For Committee Meeting

Alderman Walter Fuhrer has called the meeting of the council special water and utilities committee with the water board tonight chiefly to outline a bond maturity schedule to take care of the \$1,400,000 worth of water bonds not yet sold, he said yesterday. Fuhrer declared it would be an ill-advised move for the council to sell any more water bonds before such a schedule had been worked out so that interest and maturities would be within the water department's anticipated income.

Whether or not any change in the two committees' recommendation of a \$200,000 water improvement program might be considered tonight, Fuhrer stated he did not know. He voted against the recommendation and declared he would oppose it on the council floor.

## 4-H Club Leaders of County Meet Saturday

All Marion county 4-H club leaders are expected to meet here tomorrow at 1 p. m. in the county room to discuss the 4-H program for the year and to exchange information on club work for the assistance of new leaders.

Wayne D. Harding, club agent for the county, says the meeting will be confined to a two-hour discussion so leaders will have time left for Christmas shopping.

## Unfaithful Stool Topples Baker Into Glass Showcase

STAYTON, Dec. 12. — M. Shields, proprietor of the Stayton bakery, was badly cut about the head by glass Tuesday afternoon. He was standing on a high stool repairing the electric buzzer above the door, when in some manner the stool tipped over, throwing Shields into a glass showcase.

## Father and Two Sons All Seeking Pensions

SHELBYVILLE, Mo., Dec. 12. —(P)—A father and two sons today applied here for state old age pensions. The three — Jonathan Johnson, 95, Clark Johnson, 72, and Obadiah Johnson, 70—live at Hunnewell.

## Scarlet Fever Fatal

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 12. —(P)—The state board of health reported today that scarlet fever took 14 lives in Oregon the first 11 months of this year. Sixty-three new cases were reported last week.

## Obituary

Brooks  
At the residence, route 4, box 192, Olin E. Brooks, 72. Survived by wife, Nancy A. Brooks, Salem; son, Byron E. Brooks, Portland. Funeral announcements later by W. T. Rigdon & Co.

## Associated Veterans Elect Peerenboom as Chief For New Term

The Associated Veterans, alliance of Salem veterans organizations for relief purposes, last night elected T. C. "Ted" Peerenboom president, and discussed its Christmas cheer program. The organization plans to distribute food supplies to needy veterans this season instead of giving one big Christmas dinner for them. The 12 veterans' organizations representatives composing the association elected Arthur Johnson secretary and Hans "Curly" Hostetter treasurer. The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans of the World War and Spanish American War veterans have three representatives each in the association.

## Drive on Speeding Started by Police

(Continued from Page 1)

Commercial; Jack H. Durland, 930 North 19th, license suspended 15 days; Melvin E. Kennedy, Roseburg, \$5 fine; John J. Schmidt, Mt. Angel, \$5 fine; Everett E. Robinson, route three, 845 D, \$5 fine; Lewis C. Harkins, 215 South Winter; Shig D. Watanabe, 345 Union; Max F. Rogers, 525 North 24th street.

Reckless driving — William E. White, 2570 Maple avenue.

Falling to stop, no driver's license — W. A. Lynch, Silverton, \$2.50 fine.

Falling to signal in making turn — Rex R. Ryan, 200 South 22nd street.

No muffler — Robert D. Anderson, Dayton route one.

Speeds on which arrests were based yesterday ranged from 32 to 40 miles per hour.

Three speeders arrested earlier in the week appeared before Judge Jones yesterday. Edward Schunke, 824 North Church street, and Everett E. Robinson, route three, each paid a \$5 fine, and Ruth Ramsden, Pratum, was ordered to give up her operator's license for 30 days.

## Boggie Jury Out; Death Not Asked

SPOKANE, Dec. 12. —(P)—The first degree murder case of Clarence Boggie went to the superior court jury at 6:30 tonight after a delay caused by sickness of one of the women jurors.

Mrs. R. A. Johnston became ill at the recounting by the prosecutor of the gruesome details of the killing of Moretz Peterson, aged recluse, Peterson was beaten to death June 28, 1933, at his home.

Boggie was returned here from the Idaho state penitentiary to stand trial. A former fellow convict testified that Boggie told him of killing Peterson. Boggie's attorney charged a frame-up.

Prosecuting Attorney Ralph Foley did not demand the death penalty in his final plea to the jury.

## License Issuance Starts Saturday

Issuance of 1936 motor vehicle license plates will get under way here Saturday, secretary of State Snell declared Thursday. Similar service will be available at the Portland branch of the state motor vehicle department.

Snell estimated that 320,000 licenses will be issued next year. Approximately 300,900 licenses for 1935 had been issued at noon today.

## School Children Slate Christmas Program For Next Friday, Pioneer

PIONEER, Dec. 12. — The school children are practicing for a Christmas program to be given Friday night, December 20.

Mrs. Roy Bird was hostess at a dinner Tuesday night to the guests: Mrs. Alf Cook of Independence; Mr. and Mrs. John Robinson of Dallas; Mrs. Chet Gilliam and two children of Rickett and Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Robbins.

## District Warrant Debt Runs Only Week Back

The Salem school district's warrant indebtedness now dates back only to December 5 as the result of a call of \$41,594.52 worth of warrants made by Clerk W. H. Burghard under authority of school board authorization given Tuesday night. Interest on the warrants called amounted to \$87.62. They were numbered 13-111 to 13-457 inclusive.

## Father and Two Sons All Seeking Pensions

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## All-Campus Skate For W. U. Students Tonight

An all-campus skate is scheduled tonight starting at 7:30 o'clock in the Dreamland rink for

Willamette university students. An orchestra will play for the skaters.

Winners of the beard and finger nail contest will be chosen. Helen Benner, vice-president of the student body, is in charge.

## College Secretary Dies

NEWBERG, Ore., Dec. 12. —(P)—Herman O. Miles, field secretary of Pacific college, died today of a heart attack.