

### Explains Plan For Reservoir

#### Cover Would Stop Growth of Algae and Keep Out Other Impurities

Why a covered reservoir is proposed by the Salem water commission in its plans for improving the distribution system here was explained yesterday by Cuyler VanPatten, city water department manager. Citing the manual of the American Waterworks association as one of his authorities, VanPatten listed the following advantages of a covered over an open reservoir:

1. The cover keeps out light and thereby prevents the growth of algae.
2. Atmospheric dust, spores and seeds blown on the winds are kept out of the water supply.
3. A cover protects the reservoir against human tampering.
4. Growth of "pipe moss," a general term for organic growths such as fresh water sponge, in water mains is retarded if they are fed from a covered reservoir.
5. The cover tends to keep temperature of the water supply constant.

Inquiries are made Addressing inquiries to municipal waterworks heads in five Pacific northwest cities, VanPatten found that the consensus of opinion that going to the expense of building a covered reservoir was practical up to reservoirs of 10,000,000 gallons capacity. A 10,000,000-gallon covered reservoir, divided into two 5,000,000-gallon units to facilitate draining and cleaning, is proposed by the water commission here.

The Yakima, Wash., water department has just completed a 12,000,000-gallon covered reservoir. VanPatten was advised.

"Considering only the protection of purified water, I would recommend permeable concrete slab cover for a modern reservoir of 10,000,000 gallons," wrote Alex Lindsay, Spokane, Wash., water superintendent, in reply to an inquiry from VanPatten, while Ben Morrow, Portland water department engineer and general manager, told VanPatten by telephone that he recommended a covered reservoir for small units, though the type was impractical in point of cost for larger ones. Similar advice came from H. D. Fowler, Seattle water superintendent, and Lester B. Gellately, Wenatchee, Wash., commissioner of public works.

### Deaths at Grade Crossings Fewer

Fatalities due to grade-crossing accidents in Oregon were reduced from 19 in 1934 to four in 1935, according to a report released yesterday by Frank C. McCulloch, state utility commissioner.

Persons injured also were reduced from 41 in 1934 to 24 in 1935.

The number of grade crossing accidents increased from 96 in 1934 to 105 in 1935.

The largest number of grade crossing accidents, were in December with a total of 19. Only two accidents were reported for the month of July.

In 47 accidents the persons involved drove into the front of a moving train. Twenty-eight were classified as driving into a standing train. In seven accidents the vehicles stalled on the tracks.

Of the total number of accidents reported to the commissioner 38 or 36.2 percent occurred between the hours of 5 and 9 p. m. Accidents occurring between these hours accounted for 33 percent of the injuries and 25 percent of the deaths during the year.

An analysis of the accidents showed that the greatest severity was during the winter months.

### Trips Are Planned Non-High Board

Good-will trips to all high schools in the county will be made shortly by members of the non-high school district board of education, its members decided here Friday. The trips will be more to acquaint the board with the personnel of the schools to which the board pays tuition, than to inspect or criticize the establishments.

The board is functioning harmoniously with high school organizations in the county. The legislature has settled the matter of depreciation, a 110 winning high schools to include it as an item of cost in bills provided the non-high school board.

Chairman of the board this year is C. A. Ratcliff. Other members are M. Weinscht, Eugene Finlay, Frank Hyles and Ernest Werner. The board pays high school tuition for non-high school district students but allows nothing for transportation of students.

### 3 Crews Working Upon Tax Notices

Three crews are maintaining 24 hour operations at the tax collector's office at the courthouse, preparing to send out notices of delinquency as due to all property owners in the county.

L. E. Neet, deputy collector, reported yesterday that the workers in his office were typing envelopes to carry statements to all taxpayers, were transferring items of tax delinquency to the new statements and were bringing up items of delinquency on the rolls.

The official date for turning over the rolls by the assessor to the sheriff is February 13, but some of the rolls will come earlier to permit the sheriff's office to get busy writing up the statements.

### Old Timer Remembers Criticism of U. S. for Giving Garden Seeds

By D. H. TALMADGE, Sage of Salem

Henry Ford he says, and doubtless he's right. That just at this minute and day and night. Some man who 'tis said is a harmless crank. Drunk with the liquor of dreams he has drank. In an obscure shop in an obscure place. Is thinking out something the human race. In the years to come and the days to be. Will find life altered by—better more free.

Anyway, that's what Mr. Ford says, says he.



Our habits and customs are governed to a great extent by the times in which we live. Perfectly natural. Nothing strange about it I reckon. In the case of a person who departed from earth 100 years ago were brought back he wouldn't understand much more than half of what folks are talking about. Take, as an example of what might mystify him, the case of the little girl who asked the blessing at a doll's tea party. She bowed her head reverently and said, "This food is coming to you through the courtesy of God Almighty. Amen."

Mr. Shakespeare was a long time in reaching Hollywood—some what more than 300 years. Which just goes to show, children, that we should not permit discouragement to get us down. And, of course, the statement that Mr. Shakespeare has come to Hollywood, or that Hollywood has gone to Mr. Shakespeare, is equivalent to saying that the country in general will be given opportunity of seeing at least one of the Shakespearean plays. In other words, briefly or otherwise, Shakespeare is to circulate in a big way. "A Midsummer Night's Dream," which, by the way, is to be shown at the Elsinore theatre February 6, two performances only, has been said by an eminent English literary critic to be the most harmonious of all the dramas of Shakespeare. This authority further ventures to offer an opinion that if any single composition were required to exhibit the power of the English language for the purposes of poetry that composition would be "A Midsummer Night's Dream." The producers of the picture declare it to be the outstanding film production of all time. It may be or it may not be. So many productions from Hollywood, many of them not deserving of superlative praise, have been exploited during the past several years as outstanding productions of all time that the declaration will not be accepted seriously by the general public. But there is reason to believe, in view of the fact that the picture must in a measure harmonize with the play as Shakespeare conceived it, that it will be more nearly the outstanding film production of all time than some other outstanding film productions of all time have been. Wherefore, the local showing of the picture may be fairly considered as somewhat in the nature of an event. Personally, I'd not miss seeing it for the world.

lywood capturing directors are a dumb lot. If he says, they showed the same intelligence that the scenic directors show the quality of many pictures would be immeasurably better. I reckon he's more than half right. How many times have you said that this picture or that would have been so much better had so-and-so cast for—Senator Borah instead of so-and-so? Sure, I know it. It has happened to you, too.

Admitting the existence of a few actors and actresses who are sufficiently clever to adapt themselves acceptably to any role in which they may be cast, it still must be conceded that actors and actresses whose natural characteristics are in keeping with the role they assume produce the most satisfactory results upon an average audience. It is one thing to admit a fish to be a fine specimen of its kind, but quite another thing to see the fish flopping out of water. There has been shown at the Grand theatre during the week a film called "She Couldn't Take It," which is quite as good an example of the results of proper casting as I have seen. In looking at this picture we get an impression that the cast was made for it, rather than adapted to it without regard for what might be fitting to tell. This small bouquet is hereby respectfully tendered to all who may be concerned.

I am still standing pat on the assertion made here several weeks ago—Senator Borah will not be the republican nominee for president.

The fact that an anecdote is probably untrue makes it no less enjoyable. For example, there is the case of the man who wrote indignantly to the corn syrup manufacturer, "Dear Sir, I have taken five cans of your syrup, but my feet are no better now than they were before I started."

What does it mean when a person speaks of a billion dollars? Well, here it is in a nutshell: Suppose you were getting \$5,000 a year—yeah, I know; but you can suppose, can't you? and you saved all of it you would have a billion dollars at the end of 200,000 years.

Two hundred thousand years—that's longer than it takes for the bus to come when a person is standing on an uncovered corner in the wind and rain.

Saturday and Sunday, January 11 and 12, were days of heavy rain and high wind in this valley. The river raised and widened, and the creeks became raging torrents. Trees were bereft of their branches or uprooted and laid prostrate. It was a time of struggle beset by danger for coastwise shipping. Some of the craft won through, others did not. One steamer, the Iowa of Portland, went down at the mouth of the Columbia and all hands, numbering 34, were lost. An old, old story, I don't quite know why it is, but at such times my thoughts involuntarily turn to Homer Davenport, who is buried at Silverton. When we came to Salem more than a quarter-century ago we felt that we knew Homer. We had seen his cartoons daily in a New York paper, and we had gathered bits of information about him, because we were interested in such people as he. He died that summer, and his body was brought to Silverton, his old home town, for burial. Our boys wheeled over to the funeral. That winter his book, "The Country Boy," came to us, and we read it and reread it, because, I suppose, of its intimate association with the scenes and people of our new environment. Personally, I think I was more impressed by his description of such a storm as we experienced last week than by any other feature of the book. We had seen no such weather as he described.

We were somewhat surprised to learn that such weather was not unknown in this valley. We know now, after 25 years, that while it is not unknown it is infrequent occurrence. And his story of a stormy night and the heroic horse-back ride of a Silverton banker to carry relief to a sick family up in the hills is probably the reason why when the rain blows in sheets on a wild wind I think of Homer. There is no other reasonable way of accounting for it.

A man on a State street corner chanced to see another man draw a horse chestnut from his trousers pocket a day or two ago, and he immediately stopped, over and shook him warmly by the hand. Not a word was said. Account for the incident as you will.

Come to think of it, by rights there should be absolutely no rheumatism in this region, because horse chestnuts are so plentiful.

An Englishman tells me of a belief in his home shire that to iron the tail of a shirt is "to iron money out of it" and that ill luck is sure to follow any man the tail of whose shirt is ironed. Of course, it is ridiculous, but it is easy enough to try it.

I overheard a fellow tell another fellow this week that I (meaning me) was one of the saps who voted for Mr. Hoover four years ago. It's true all right, but I didn't vote for Mr. Hoover because of his magnetic personality. Had a man like, say, Grover Cleveland been the other candidate, instead of Mr. Roosevelt, I reckon I wouldn't have voted for Mr. Hoover. I've tried to feel friendly towards Mr. Roosevelt, and I haven't tried to crack any bum jokes at the expense of his administration, although there have been moments when some of his doings appeared to me pretty silly. I aim at this writing to vote for the supreme court and the constitution of the United States this fall. That is as far as I've made up my mind at present. I'm naming no candidates or parties.

Pretty soon now it will be more difficult not to talk politics than it ordinarily is not to talk about the weather, and it's a heap more difficult. There's more scope to politics. The most persuasive and diplomatic player wins the game. It's called diplomat in politics, but in other fields of controversy it's called plain lying. The weather leaves no room for argument. A man may declare it's not raining when it is, but no matter how smart he may be he can't win. Even the most brilliant speaker in the world can't argue a rain-storm out of the evidence.

What with chemicals and explosives and one thing and another, war takes on added horrors yearly. But at the same time the horrors of war are being lessened. The papers state that potatoes for the army are now being peeled by machines.

I'm eligible to membership in the old timers' club, I reckon. I can remember when the government was criticized for its extravagance in giving away garden seeds.

The official publication setting forth the proposed constitutional amendment and measure to be voted on at the special election of January 31 is in the mails. I received my copy this morning, and I aim to read it between now and election day. I consider it a duty to read the arguments set forth in the booklet, just as I look upon it as a duty to vote for what seems

to me the best interests of the commonwealth. That's about all a voter can do. Every now and then some voter asks me how he should vote. He does this merely to flatter me. And every now and then I ask some voter how I should vote, and I derive considerable entertainment from the pleased expression that pops out on his countenance. In most of such instances it is tacitly understood between us that our real purpose in the matter is, likely as not, to satisfy ourselves. As to each, other's opinion in order that we may vote the other way. Politics is a somewhat heavy game. But it is a mighty interesting game, even when viewed from the bleachers. I've done a heap of yelping from the bleachers in my time. But I don't do it any more. I reckon I know when I've been bamboozled as much as is good for me.

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### Mrs. Frank Power Seriously Injured

Mrs. Frank Power, 253 North 13th street, was in critical condition last night at Salem General hospital as the result of injuries she sustained early yesterday morning when struck by an automobile driven by Glenn Magee of Aumsville. Mrs. Power was crossing State street near her home when the accident occurred.

Her right arm was broken, five ribs were fractured and it was feared injury had been done to the lung cavity. Physicians said the severity of her injuries would be known more clearly today.

No charges were filed against Magee.

It was dark and raining at the time of the accident, Magee reported to police, and he did not see Mrs. Power until his car struck her.

### League of Cities Meets Here Soon

Any and all municipal problems will be discussed at the regional conference of the League of Oregon Cities to be held at the chamber of commerce here all day January 25, according to notices received from Mayor Elmsa Largo of Eugene, president of the league. He states that there will be no set speaking program; rather the meetings will take the form of roundtable discussions of any "problems" delegates wish to bring up.

Subjects mentioned by Largo include foreclosure of city liens, rights of cities in county foreclosures, fire fighting outside of cities; liquor licensing, FWA and WPA projects and procedure; special security as related to municipal employes; demolition of buildings and liability for stream pollution.

Mayor V. E. Kuhn of Salem, league executive-committee member, will preside over the meetings while City Recorder A. Warren Jones will serve as toastmaster at the conference luncheon at noon at the Argo hotel.

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### Half Price Shoe Sale Now On!

Sweeping aside all thoughts of profits, the following groups represent discontinued lines of such well known brands as Red Cross, Florsheim, Rice O'Neil, Pedigo, Selby and J. and K.

One Lot of Misses' Sports Shoes	Regular \$4.00	\$2.00
One Lot of Women's Dress Shoes	Regular \$3.50	\$3.25
One Lot of Women's Dress Shoes	Regular \$8.50	\$4.25
One Lot of Women's Dress Shoes	Regular \$10.00	\$5.00

### FUR-TRIM COATS

Regular \$69.50

## \$34.75

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### CHILDREN'S SHOES

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