

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"

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Bits for Breakfast

By **R. J. HENDRICKS**

David Leslie: 2-26-37

Eight among many notable things make his name memorable here:

The writer, speaking by invitation on the life of David Leslie at the founders' day meeting of the Leslie Parent-Teacher association on Wednesday evening in the library of that school's fine building, said that he relied mainly for facts on what was printed in the Bits for Breakfast column for the issues of April 12, 13 and 14 and May 12, 1932.

He opened with a summary showing eight facts that entitle Leslie's name to enduring fame, thus:

1. First civil officer of the United States west of the Rockies.
2. Presided at the Feb. 19, 1841, meeting where the provisional government was formed and launched.
3. Was the administrator that settled the Ewing Young estate.
4. Prepared the oath for participation in the July 5, 1842, meeting at Champeog.
5. Was one of the committee calling the meeting that founded the school that became Willamette university.
6. Was present at the founding meeting and became a member of its board of trustees and was chosen president of that board and so remained until the day of his death, 27 years and one month later.
7. He named Salem.
8. He had charge of the mission while Jason Lee went for and returned with the Lausane party.

David Leslie was born in New Hampshire. Most historians have put the time of his birth, in the year 1797. The lettering on his tombstone in the Odd Fellows' cemetery, Salem, reads: "In memory of Rev. David Leslie, pioneer missionary to Oregon in 1837. Faithful in life, he died in peace March 1, 1869, aged 71 years." This places his birth in the year 1797.

According to George H. Himes of the Oregon Historical society, the maiden name of the first Mrs. Leslie was Mary A. Kinney. The date of her death was February 1, 1841. Lettering on her tombstone shows that she was married at 17.

She was a sister of the mother of Rev. Bradford K. Pierce, one of the most eminent preachers and writers of Boston, long editor of Zion's Herald of that city.

Rev. Leslie, his wife and three daughters came from Wrentham, Mass., on the ship Samatra that sailed from Boston Jan. 20, 1837, arriving at Fort Vancouver, via Cape Horn, Sept. 7, 1837; about seven months—a VERY short trip, for the period.

They were with the party known as the third group of missionaries of the Jason Lee mission. With the second group had come Elvira Johnson, teacher. With the third group was Rev. H. K. W. Perkins; they were engaged, and on their marriage they were housed with the Leslie family, at the old mission.

By that time the log houses at the mission were full to overflowing with missionary preachers, workers, laborers and Indian children, and so Jason Lee bought the claim of a French Canadian settler, who a native wife near by and the Johnsons and Leslies lived together.

Early in 1838 Jason Lee, on the suggestion of Dr. McLoughlin, named David Leslie justice of the peace. Thus he became the first civil officer of the United States west of the Rockies.

That spring, when Lee started east for more reinforcements, a journey that resulted in the coming of the Lausanne party in 1840, he left Leslie in charge of the mission in his place.

In December, 1838, the Leslie house at the mission was burned. Rev. and Mrs. Perkins had by this time gone to the branch mission at Wascoham (The Dalles), and the Leslies moved into other houses, including one across the Willamette valley on the claim of James H. O'Neal, afterward Wheatland. Also the old mission hospital, finished in 1840.

Late in 1842, Rev. Leslie started to go to the Sandwich Islands on the ship Chenamus, taking his five half-orphan daughters, intending to send them to their mothers' people in Massachusetts, to be educated.

In the meantime, Cornelius Rogers had severed his connection with the Whitman mission and come to the Willamette valley. He had fallen in love with the eldest Leslie daughter, Satira, aged 15, and he followed the family on the Chenamus, secured the consent of the father, and they were married on that vessel before it reached Astoria.

All the histories say Satira begged her father that she might take back to the valley with them Helen and Aurelia, the two youngest daughters; that this was done, and that the father went on to Honolulu with the other two, Mary and Sarah, where he died in school. Sarah died in Honolulu and Mary later returned to her father here.

Mr. and Mrs. Rogers having

Neutrality and Peace

MANDATORY neutrality is the demand of the emergency peace campaign sponsored by the leading peace organizations of the country. As Florence Brewer Boeckel says in a pamphlet on neutrality policy circulated by the National Council for Prevention of War: "Only mandatory legislation will definitely throw the influence of this country against war." But the weekly magazine, The Nation, asserts: "A simple, common-sense analysis, however, must show that neutrality leads to war." This leaves the friends of peace disputing, as seems usual, among themselves over the road to follow.

What is the neutrality issue? Proponents of a strict neutrality policy begin with two assumptions, first that it is vitally necessary to keep the United States out of the "next war"; second that the way to keep the country out is by a policy of strict neutrality. At that point there is division of opinion. Some say that congress should lay down a mandatory policy applicable to all belligerents and to all civil wars. The Nye-Clark-Vandenberg bill provides for mandatory neutrality. Others say that discretionary powers for invoking neutrality should be vested with the president. Their ideas are embraced in the Pittman bill, which is discussed in another column on this page by Dorothy Thompson.

In theory the policy of mandatory neutrality looks as though it would securely insulate us against being involved in war. It is interesting however to follow the reasoning of The Nation respecting the fallacy of neutrality:

"If Germany were certain that England and America would remain aloof from the next international struggle, war would perhaps be upon us already. The chief and unchanging purpose of Nazi foreign policy is to neutralize Great Britain. With London neutral and Washington indifferent, France or any other victim of Germany would be at the mercy of a sudden offensive. Such neutrality as is advocated by the American isolationists has been Hitler's greatest hope. . . Instead of wanting to have all countries guarantee the peace, he urges that when hostilities break out between two states, 'the other nations withdraw at once from both sides'. . . Germany marches into Czechoslovakia, Russia, France and England remain neutral. Germany wins the war. Next Germany violates Poland. The powers maintain an Olympic passivity. France's turn would be next and then England's. Neutrality followed to its natural and logical conclusion means the end of international law and the collapse of diplomacy. It is in the hands of aggressors."

There is great force in this argument. Ethiopia and Spain are examples of one-sided neutrality or of protest feebly implemented. Miss Thompson points out practical defects in the working of even the measure for discretionary neutrality.

The objective to keep in mind is peace, world peace; peace not on the basis of military conquest but on the basis of reasonable justice. It is quite conceivable that neutrality which cut off supplies to both sides in a war might work injury to the cause of peace with justice.

Neutrality is a fine-sounding term; but we are doubtful of the virtue of welding rigid bonds on the country in advance of knowledge of the concrete circumstances. The neutrality advocates, of course, claim that is the only way to preserve a neutrality; but on the whole the United States has shown pretty good sense in its decisions relating to foreign wars. The discussion will at least reveal the fact that enthusiasms are not always reliable guides in the writing of legislation. Neutrality needs to be viewed from all angles before the nation binds itself to rigid policies.

Pensions at 65

THE action of the house yesterday in passing a bill to reduce the minimum age of pensions to 65 and to increase the pension to \$30 a month is law-making by blind-stagers method. It spends the money, far in excess of sums available, without providing revenues to supply the money. The state might do that for a biennium; after that the deluge. Pensions are a continuing and increasing burden. There should be no step toward such vast increase of the pension costs without accompanying revenue legislation. The state has already rejected a sales tax for the purpose.

For years the effort of governors and of legislative leaders has been to get the state on a sound financial basis so it can assume the increased burdens of social security. The enactment of the house bill would pretty well wreck the treasury which by sacrifice and effort has been put in good order.

Social security and pensions are not automatic. They do not come by printing paper money, at least for the state and county share. The cost must come out of taxes. Security for the aged means added sacrifice to those of all other classes, by increasing their taxes. The legislature in its compassion for the overloaded taxpayer has already passed a law to lift the burden of penalty and interest on delinquents, thus recognizing that the taxpayer needs a share in "social security" himself.

The federal law does not require lowering the age until 1940. In its present financial situation Oregon should wait another two years before taking on this burden. Not only is the state hard pressed to meet its present obligations, the counties are many of them in worse position. Where would they go for revenues to meet their share?

The pressures on legislators are tremendous. But they have a responsibility to preserve the credit of the state and the counties even against their sympathies with the aged. Otherwise all classes will be injured in the ensuing crash.

Loose Joints

MADAME PERKINS is said to be considering a bill which would set up maximum hours and minimum wages for all industry, and fix requirements for working conditions to protect health, insure flexibility so that certain industries might have codes of their own, and provide so the federal government would be able to control the new industrial standards.

This is a much more sensible approach to the problem than the blue eagle method of General Johnson where by bass drum and trumpet the public was exhorted to accept a minute system of industrial regulation. This paper recognizes that national problems should be dealt with in a national way. The federal government however ought not to undertake to govern the minutiae of economic life, because ultimately the scheme breaks down because of rigid bureaucracy. One advantage of the federal system has been the loose joints that have permitted expansion. We ought not to destroy all that in our zeal to strike down admitted evils.

Valley Vision

FRIENDS of the project for the development of the Willamette valley assembled at the Salem chamber of commerce and put punch into the plan which contemplates flood control, navigation, irrigation and power development for this area. Without vision the people perish; and measured by the vision of the speakers at the Thursday meeting the longevity of the people resident here is assured.

Of course this valley is capable of supporting many more thousands of people; and capable of giving better support for those who live here now. The collective activity of government and local agencies is needed in the larger phases of the project. But there is need also for energetic effort on the part of individuals to improve their own situations. If each farmer lays out sound plans and pursues them; if each business man plans for the expansion of his business; if each manufacturer labors for the extension of his markets then progress is assured. Reliance on big federal appropriation should not stop individual proprietors from effort to do some developing on their own projects.

Pres. Baxter, facing a piece of cherry pie on Washington's birthday: "My, I'm glad Washington didn't chop down a prune tree."

Beacon Light

FEDERAL AIR SAFETY MEASURES

"LUXURY MODEL" by **MAY CHRISTIE**

CHAPTER XXVII

"Look here, Luana," he bit his lip perceptibly—"you're angry with me and I don't blame you one bit. You've got to hear what happened right from the beginning. It's been one of those unlucky evenings—a general mix-up. Neither of us has been really to blame. Let me explain it."

He steered her to the right of the garden, away from the tables and the orchestra and the crowd. A path led under the trees here, with the moonlight filtering through the branches. It had rained that morning very heavily, and the fragrance of green, growing things mingled with Luana's perfume.

The blood raced through his veins as he looked at her, felt her nearness, so that he had a mad impulse to take her into his arms.

But she said now, coolly, casually: "There's nothing to explain except that I was unable to keep my appointment."

He ignored that, just as though he had a sixth sense and intuitively knew that she was seeking to save her pride that he had wounded, by an assumption of indifference.

"As I said before, Luana, my clock stopped at four this afternoon and I simply didn't realize it till after six-thirty, which was a good hour after our appointment. As a matter of fact, I'd have had to phone you anyway, because the job I'd undertaken for Fitch & Sumner, the advertising agency on West 4th street, took a darned sight longer than I'd expected."

Would he speak of Mrs. Vandaveur coming to his studio? She couldn't bear it if he tried to hide that.

She told herself that she loathed Mrs. Vandaveur, who could put so smoothly in front of the men, and yet—unnoticed by them probably, since men were gullible—reach out and give an opponent an unwarrantable scratch.

How dare she cattily bring up the question of Mr. Quackenbush in connection with this gown? It was as though she conveyed plainly to "Handsome" that "Luana's only a poor little model!"

Not that she cared, since "Handsome" knew she worked, and must have known this gown was from the shop, since she had walked straight from the House of Quackenbush into his car.

It was the motive that infuriated her, so she told herself, putting a highlight on the woman's character. But if Luana's feeling were analyzed, the truth was she loathed seeing Mrs. Vandaveur with Jimmy. She remembered now the long session they had had in the conservatory at the cocktail-party!

Money attracted him, or was she mistaken?

decided to live in Oregon City, went down the river in a boat manned by Indians—from the old mission, the writer believes. The water was high. The boat got loose above the Willamette falls and went over them, and Mr. and Mrs. Rogers were drowned, also her little sister, Aurelia, youngest of the family, and Nathaniel Crocker of the 1842 immigration and two of the Indian boatmen.

(Continued tomorrow)

Then she remembered how "Handsome's" talk about his yacht and the proposed trip had fascinated her even against her will. And she felt ashamed. Who was she to condemn anyone?

Jimmy continued: "Just as I put the last stroke to my drawing, the buzzer rang, Luana, and I thought maybe it was you; that you had come early from the shop, for I was under the impression that it was only about five. It was Mrs. Vandaveur, however. I couldn't show her the door when she'd been so nice to us, now could I? I couldn't offend her when—when she's so fond of you—she broke off lamely, and a flush rose to his face, because he suddenly remembered the emotional moment in her penthouse at the end of dinner, when she had risen from her chair and come round to his end of the table, and had offered to be an inspiration to him in his work.

"Of course you couldn't offend her. You wouldn't want to offend her," Luana said meaningly.

He ignored that. He went on: "She'd only been in the place about a quarter of an hour, looking at my stuff, when suddenly I realized how the light was fading, and I looked at the clock, and saw it had stopped, and I asked her what time it was, and she said six-thirty or thereabouts, and oh! boy! was I annoyed! I could have kicked myself!"

His voice was so earnest, she had to believe him.

But not show it yet. "So what then?" she inquired frigidly.

"She knew the drawing had to be delivered not later than seven, if I was to be paid. She offered to run me there in her car, but first of all I got the chauffeur to drive round to your place, hoping to explain things to you."

"So she saw where I live?" Luana was annoyed that the question had escaped her, for why should she be ashamed of the tumble-down house in the village? What did it matter what Mrs. Vandaveur might think?

"We'd a lot of trouble finding the alley, but we did get there finally, Luana, and I dashed upstairs, only to find nobody home."

"What time was that?" she asked, inquisitorially.

"A few minutes before seven, I imagine."

"Then Yvonne and Armand were in the apartment?"

He said: "That's funny. No one answered my knock. It fairly echoed through the old house, Luana. Had they been there, they must have heard it."

There was a pause. She was embarrassed. Jimmy must be drawing his own conclusions. Why did she live with a girl like Yvonne Darrington?

He continued: "We drove to Fitch & Sumner in a gosh-awful hurry. It was ten after seven when we arrived, but luckily the cleaning woman still was there, and let me in, and I left the drawing."

"Afterwards, Mrs. Vandaveur had me drive home with her. I couldn't do less, when she'd been so kind. She suggested sending Lewis—that's the chauffeur—with a note to you, in which I asked you to get in touch with me, but he came back and said there was no answer. So I dined there."

"You did?"

"She—she's awfully decent, Luana. She had Wallace Bruce, head of the committee of the school, come over after dinner and meet me." He was about to tell her of the demotion to the meeting, when Bruce had assured him that the exchange to Paris was as good as settled, but with Luana walking alongside him—look!—overly, she had wanted to run her finger

On the Record

By **DOROTHY THOMPSON**

It is expected that some time this week the Pittman resolution will be favorably reported out of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Senate. Under its terms a war-time commerce agreement is rigged in favor of the great monopolies, international industries and a few national banking houses.

Dorothy Thompson against the smaller manufacturer, who keeps his capital and employs his labor at home. The bill also will extend to the President the very great power of deciding what, anywhere in the world, constitutes a state of war, whether international or civil, thereupon giving him enormous control over our foreign trade. The bill, furthermore, definitely favors, in war time, that country or those countries which can control the seas, extending to it or to them special privileges which other belligerents cannot enjoy. It also extends special privileges to those nations, or their nationals who hold credits in this country, or operate industries or exploit natural resources here. The bill is called a Neutrality law and is designed to keep us out of war. And if we are engaged in hostilities, what then? Will that help to make everything hotly today? The President can forbid any American national to lend money to any belligerent government or person, but he cannot prevent foreign nationals with money in this country from spending it here to help their own side. And there are billions of foreign money here at this moment.

Under this bill the President can prevent John Smith, who has a single oil well in Texas, from selling oil to Spain, or Russia, or Great Britain, or any other country which has engaged its holdings at any moment in war, but he cannot prevent the great American oil companies, with fields and refineries all over the world—in Persia, Mexico, Venezuela, the Dutch East Indies or in Rumania—from selling oil to any one of these countries, with tremendous profits, and which can come home from the wars and force the little fellows, whom the war has impoverished, into bankruptcy. Under this bill International Nickel, which has a huge mine in Canada, and which can do all the business it likes. So, for instance, can Anaconda copper. General Motors, which owns a majority of the stock in the German Opel works, can go on manufacturing trucks for the German army, as it is doing at this moment, and in Detroit, but in Germany. The bill is an invitation to American capital to distribute itself around the world. If one grants the thesis that our entrance into the last war was exclusively favored by American financial interests—a thesis which may be called "Dobson's" after the simple-minded how is this bill going to prevent American capital from having an interest in the next war as well?

The bill is in direct contradiction to the policy of Mr. Cordell Hull, who is doing everything in his power to foster normal international trade, and is opposing the self-sufficiency program of Germany, on the ground that economic self-sufficiency encourages war! But if other countries adopted bills similar to this, what would be left for countries poor in raw materials and foreign exchange except to copy and extend the German program?

We can tie up our hands all we please, in an attempt to preclude the next war on the history of the last, a history, incidentally, which recent interpretations have both clarified and befuddled. But whatever we do will generate counter-policies in other countries; they are not altogether stupid; they are also motivated by self-interest. I have suggested what some of their counter-policies may be. And there will be others, and a storage of vast amounts of food and materials, with resultant economic dislocations, and the opening up of new sources of raw materials, which will militate against our interests.

The bill is badly named. It should be called: An Act to encourage armaments, declare our alliance with whomever the moment has the biggest navy, and foster international finance capitalism at the cost of the small fellows at home.

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Ten Years Ago

February 26, 1927

Thomas B. Kay, state treasurer, will be speaker at the Monday noon luncheon of Salem Chamber of Commerce.

Edward F. Averill, state game warden, received notice from Washington suggesting the possibility of reducing the number of ducks killed annually.

Willamette Boats tied for northwest conference title with Whitman after defeating Pacific.

Twenty Years Ago

February 26, 1917

Ida M. Tarbell, noted social worker, publicist and economist says build a community hospital in recent talk to manager Ivan McDaniel of Salem Commercial club.

Guest Day observed by Salem Woman's club. Dr. Frank Canoe, head of music department of Willamette, gave organ recital.

Oregon canneries will have in a few years an output one third as large as that of California establishments, according to W. G. Allen, manager of Hunt Brothers cannery.

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