

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe" From First Statesman, March 25, 1851

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Roosevelt's Rendezvous

MARK SULLIVAN'S article which appears in another column on this page today, lays out quite clearly the situation which confronts Pres. Roosevelt with his arrival in Washington this week...

Involved is not only the question of the court bill, but that of party leadership. Already it is evident that the party following in congress is getting restive...

Greater uncertainty attends the whole Rooseveltian program. It has been said that he regards the court bill as necessary for carrying out his remaining policies...

The situation is not beyond rescue by the president. His power is perhaps even greater enough to force through the obviously distasteful court bill.

For every man wielding great power come times of crisis, when his destiny depends on his own decisions.

King George Is Crowned

WITH much of mediaeval pageantry and ecclesiastical ceremony and mummy George and Elizabeth were crowned king and queen of Great Britain yesterday.

To those who listened to the broadcast the event outside the abbey resembled a great football game—the cheering crowds, the blare of band music, and announcers describing the "colorful" scene.

The American listening to the unrolling of the elaborate rite of anointing the king, putting a muslin shirt on him, and a golden tunic, and giving him the emblems of majesty is apt to be somewhat of a scoffer...

The British coronation serves at the moment to relieve the dark picture from continental Europe, of Spain bleeding to death, of peoples crucifying themselves for strange ideas...

"Pinky" the Goat?

THE Oregonian and Capital Journal are jumping on Secretary Gosselin, "Pinky" to them, for writing a letter to the Portland school board calling to the board's attention the participation of a Portland school teacher in the OCF convention.

The letter was a political error, to be sure; for one reason that it gives Secretary Sweetland an opportunity to write a letter and give it to the papers. This is old propaganda technique, used by "information bureaus" of religious sects as well as political groups...

By teaching the "tangible presence of God," Father Divine, "dean of the universe," is said to have accumulated properties worth \$200,000. Now the dupes are seeking to get their money back.

Some people try to point out a resemblance between George III and Franklin Roosevelt. There is a real difference; it is this, the American people resisted the former.

John L. Lewis lost his house-key and had to leave his bulk through a window to get into his home recently. Why didn't he pick his house because of the lockout?

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

It, or worse, might happen here; man who took food for starving children might get "life."

This paragraph is clipped from the editorial page of the Portland Oregonian of Sunday last:

"Theft of six chickens resulted in a sentence of life imprisonment for Henry Clegg at Parkersburg, W. Va. When Clegg pleaded guilty a few days ago, it was found he had a record of two previous felony convictions for forgery and under the state law the life imprisonment was mandatory.

Why is it seldom invoked? The answer is that it is not a wisely enacted law, and the prosecuting attorneys of Oregon, most of them, know the invocation of it would do at least might bring about injustice, not justice; wrong, not right.

The movement for the adoption of this law originated in New York, with Baumes, a member of the state legislature. Hence its name, the Baumes law.

It reached Oregon in the 1927 session of our legislature, through Mr. Lewis, Multnomah county, member of the lower house. So here it is the Lewis law.

Under West Virginia's Baumes law, a man went to the penitentiary for life because he robbed a roost of six chickens. A man in Oregon might get such a sentence for taking a loaf of bread for his starving children, because he had already served two prison terms.

A man serving in the West Virginia penitentiary, or in any other state prison in the South, would be earning his keep, or more—in several of those states a great deal more; in some of them their prisons paying hundreds of thousands of dollars more than their costs.

Modern penology calls for the indeterminate term; that is, holds that a man convicted of a felony should be committed, not sentenced.

Like one committed to an asylum for the insane, he should get out if and when he is cured; if never cured, never. But he should never have his candle of hope snuffed out. He should always have a chance for release, when fitted for it, and guaranteed a place where he may perform usefully in society.

That is the theory of penology in Minnesota, where no man goes to prison and leaves his family destitute who recedes in prison a daily wage, supporting himself there, at no cost to the general taxpayer, and enough to keep the wolf from his family's door; and in cases of large families or desperate needs, provisions being made from the whole institution's income and from other sources (not tax sources) for the special circumstances.

The indeterminate sentence does not prevail in Minnesota, but the men in charge of the penal institutions believe it should.

Far from prevailing in New York, Warden Lawes of Sing Sing, master and key prison of the state in that state, thinks it should, and says so on every appropriate occasion.

It is like the Golden Rule, and the principle of the Sermon on the Mount. No sane man denies they are the perfect rules for an orderly society, a world at peace. But the average state and nation, also the average individual, is too self centered to allow considerable much less their general or universal adoption.

The inexperienced mind is likely to jump at the conclusion that the Baumes law principle is right and just. The third time loser is of course, he reasons, a confirmed criminal, without chance of reformation. But experience is against that general conclusion.

Even when the world was very raw, the city of Sodom might have been saved had 10 decent men been found in it. Or that was what Abraham, father of the faithful, argued for, with God; prayed for, you may prefer to say.

The whole system of penology must finally be reformed, if we are ever to become a civilized world, a Christian nation. Every enforcement officer, from the hicktown policeman to the U. S. supreme court justice, must and practice the principles of justice.

That is what Warden Lawes would say. That is what the simple rules of common sense dictate. There is no proper place for a Baumes law in an enlightened society.

Airlie High Students to Give Mystery Play Soon; School to Be Out June 18

AIRLIE, May 12—High school students are preparing a three-act mystery play, "Christa Cottage," to be given in the near future.

Coming Back!



News items—Indians are now increasing more rapidly than any other segment of our population

Interpreting the News

By MARK SULLIVAN

WASHINGTON, May 10.—On Monday morning of this week, the important newspapers of the country carried dispatches from Washington speculating on what will happen when President Roosevelt gets the question of the week.

That Mr. Roosevelt will hold a conference with his party leaders in congress is already announced. What the leaders will tell him, ever well informed person can surmise. The leaders will begin with the president's court proposal.

But, the leaders will say, a majority of the committee might support a compromise, preferably a compromise giving Mr. Roosevelt two new justices instead of the present circumstances, there is little difference between packing the court with two and packing with six; but the harassed and anxious leaders will not dwell on that.

In the light of this condition, the leaders will ask Mr. Roosevelt if he is willing to accept such a compromise. He will ask them what are the chances of the measure in its original form, in the senate as a whole. This the leaders cannot answer with certainty.

Then probably, Mr. Roosevelt will ask the leaders a question, a conclusive question. He will ask them what are the chances of the measure in its original form, in the senate as a whole. This the leaders cannot answer with certainty.

The spirit in which the democratic leaders ask these questions will tell Mr. Roosevelt the answer they hope for. Indeed it may not be a question of asking the president, it may be a case of telling him. Practically every leader wishes Mr. Roosevelt would accept some face-saving compromise, and wishes even more that he would drop the measure entirely—and wishes most of all that he had never proposed the damned thing.

Tribute Is Paid Mt. Angel Mothers

MT. ANGEL, May 12—Mothers of the community were guests of honor at a special program given in St. Mary's auditorium at 8:15 p. m. Monday.

Mrs. Frances Skonetzki, 33, was presented with flowers for being the oldest mother present. Mrs. Lena Unger was given similar floral offering for having the most children of any mother present.

Ted Marx, president of the Young Men's sodality, announced the numbers and gave an exceptionally fine tribute to mothers. Rev. Joseph Heesacker of Woodburn, guest speaker, and Father Alcibi, local pastor, added their homage to motherhood in beautiful and eloquent words.

Splendid musical offerings were given by Miss Clara Keber, accompanied by her sister Ursula, and by Alexander Scharbach with two saxophone solos and a violin solo, accompanied on the piano by his wife.

A. W. Nusoms Are Hosts To Group Mother's Day

ELDREDGE, May 12—Mrs. Mary Nusom, Mrs. Rosanna Alchier and daughter Mabelle, Miss Dorothy Nusom and Robert Nusom, all of Woodburn were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Nusom.

The Red Hills Berkeley club met at the E. O. Beckley home Friday night. The next meeting will be held at the E. F. Wheelan home.

Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander and family of Hood River were weekend visitors at the Norman Alexander and the J. D. Alexander homes.

Ten Years Ago

May 13, 1927 John H. McNary, judge of the United States district court in Portland will be honored at a banquet to be given by the Marjion county bar association.

Willamette tennis team won from Reed college in match yesterday. Ivan White is number 1 player for Willamette.

Rev. and Mrs. H. C. Stover of Knight Memorial church are spending week in eastern Oregon. Stover will deliver commencement address to graduating class of Athena high school.

Another Queen

The Safety Valve

From a Mother, Former Teacher To the Editor: Thanks for the editorial on the married woman. I happen to be a "bum housekeeper" but a "good teacher."

When my children were in the grades and we lived in a rural community, I taught school and they went to school. (A three room school). We were pals and companions. I gained a position in the lives of my children that isn't gained by many mothers.

As I felt for my three children, so in turn I was able to put myself in the other mother's position and worked harder for the interest of her children. I know that motherhood widened my development and the six years taught after motherhood were my best years of work.

I'd be back in the school room tomorrow if it were possible. I'd far rather work with a room full of children and hire a woman interested in a house full of furniture to do my work in the housekeeping line.

As it is I have a hobby that keeps me busy in the library every spare minute of my time. And this reminds me. In the city library and also in the state library is a book, "Your Family Tree" by Dr. David Starr Jordan.

The Edmund Rice line is given and I wonder how many of the Rice families here trace back to the immigrant Edmund and thence back to King Edward the 1st? Many other prominent names are given and the royal descent of many of our presidents and leading men of the day.

SUNNYSIDE, May 12.—At a recent school board meeting Miss Dorothy Belknap was hired to teach the upper room and Mrs. Florence Whelan was rehired to teach the primary room if there are enough pupils to require two teachers.

At the home of Mrs. Mary Herndon, guests were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Herndon and sons of Portland, Alvin Durham of Eugene, Mrs. Daphne Randall, Florence and Gordon of Salem, and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Scharf, Katherine and Harry.

FAIRVIEW, May 12.—The annual eighth grade party will be held at Fairview Thursday night, honoring at a debut a graduating class from the Fairview, Grand Island, Hopewell, Pleasantdale, Unionvale, Webfoot, Westland and Yampo school districts.

Radio Programs KOAC-THURSDAY-540 Kc. 9:00—Today's programs. 9:05—O'Neill, drama. 10:00—Homespun hour. 10:15—Story hour for adults. 11:00—School of the air. 12:15—Farm hour. 1:15—Variety. 2:30—Gardening your health. 3:00—Garden club. 3:00—"The Original Inhabitants," Dr. L. S. Greenman, University of Oregon. 4:00—"We listen to music. 4:30—Stories for boys and girls. 6:15—News. 6:30—Farm hour. 7:45—Interpretation of art. "Michael Angelo and His Philosophy of Art," N. B. Zane, associate professor of space art. 9:45-9:00—Forecast in action. KOIN-THURSDAY-840 Kc. 6:30—Clock. 8—News. 9:05—Song of Pioneers. 9:30—Youngster's Hour. Trent, drama. 9:40—Betty and Bob, serial. 9:45—Modern Cinderella. 9:50—Betty Crocker's program. 9:55—Hymns of all churches. 10:00—Who's who in the news. 10:05—Newlywed sketches. 11:15—Cooking for fun. 12:15—Pretty Kitty Kelly, drama. 12:30—Homespun sketches. 1:00—Silver serenade. 1:15—Mary O'Brien. 1:45—News. 2:30—Newlywed, drama. 3:00—Western home. 4:00—Alexander's Romantic songs. 4:30—Variety matinee. 5:00—Major Bowen's amateurs. 5:15—March of Time. 7:00—Sentimental Banquet. 8:00—Owens orch. 8:30—Alexander's Woodcut. 9:00—Nocturne. 9:15—Fisher orch. 9:30—Drews, organ. 9:45—Christa Cottage. 10—Gluckin orch. 11:00—Jurysen orch. 11:30-12—Woodyard orch. KGW-THURSDAY-820 Kc. 7:30—Morning melodies (ET). 7:35—Fiancée. 8:15—Story of Mary Martin, drama. 9:00—Marguerite Padua, sing. 9:15—Mrs. Wiggs of Cabbaget Patch, drama. 9:30—John's Other Wife, serial. 10:30—It's a Woman's World.