

# The Oregon Statesman

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

CHARLES A. SPRAGUE - Editor and Publisher

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## Merry-Go-Round Economics

President Roosevelt's serial story of the new deal has reached that most interesting phase, the NRA. In discussing that supreme effort toward recovery by regimentation the president reveals that he still lacks an understanding of, or refuses to accept as valid, some of the simpler economic principles.

The blue eagle is now only a fading memory, but these articles serve to refresh realization of what it sought to accomplish. Unemployment was the major problem; so the NRA sought to solve it by limiting hours. So far so good; but it was realized that in spreading work, the employer would be disposed also to spread wages so as to avoid increasing the payroll. To checkmate that tendency, it was decreed that wages should not be reduced.

Then, in order that employers might be able to meet the payroll, codes designed to establish minimum prices and prevent ruinous competition were established. The president says he realized at the time these regulations would increase prices, but adds that these higher prices would tend to neutralize the benefits from increased purchasing power. Therefore additional agencies were created to protect consumers; in other words to keep prices from going too high.

Business men who struggled through that hectic period need not be reminded of the manner in which they were ground between the upper and nether millstone, up to the moment of the supreme court decision which shattered the NRA machine completely. But now the president writes that the principal complaint came from industrialists who had operated under sweatshop conditions before NRA, and who were forced by it to pay decent wages for decent hours of work. He does not care to set it down on paper that many industries found it totally impossible to survive, and that their collapse increased unemployment instead of reducing it.

The president's own story leaves the impression that he still believes NRA was successful and beneficial. Just as, after the armistice in 1918, there were many who regretted that the World War had been stopped before the central powers had been completely crushed, there must be students of economics who regret that NRA was not permitted to proceed to its logical conclusion.

## Railroad Recuperation

On Monday President Roosevelt submitted to congress a message on the problem of relieving and rehabilitating the nation's railroads which was in distinct contrast to various communications the chief executive has dispatched to the law-making body.

The recommendations in this message were not the president's own, but were merely the relayed suggestions of three members of the interstate commerce commission and other advisors.

The president's eloquent silence in so far as his own ideas were concerned, obviously viewed by capital news reporters as evidence of pique or as a studied rebuke, based in either case upon the refusal of congress to follow the president's lead recently on major matters, may be hailed by some critics who contend that the president is always wrong, as a welcome relief; but it is on the contrary regrettable if it marks the establishment of a new policy as to relations between the executive and congress.

In the case of the federal government, there is no relief pitcher in the bullpen, and if the president refuses to "stay in there and pitch" the game reaches a stalemate. The game has to go on, even though every pitched ball is knocked over the fence.

These considerations are minor in comparison to the actual problem of doing something for the railroads, but the coolness with which congressional readers eyed the task dumped in their laps is not reassuring. It was intimated that little would be done at this session of congress. But the difficulties of the railroads are in urgent need of solution.

And although the railroad problem is complicated, it should not take congress a great length of time, with these recommendations before it, to select one or more measures of relief. It must be kept in mind that railroads are under strict regulation, therefore there is little that they can do for themselves without government sanction.

Loans will be of little benefit; the rails can hardly expect to make headway against a heavier debt load. The ICC has already granted the rate increase it thought wise, and there is a limit in that direction. That practically reduces the possible solutions to subsidies or consolidations. Congress ought to be able to decide that question in the time it has at its disposal.

## Winter Sports Areas

The winter sports season is, or ought to be, over for this year, judging solely by a glance at the calendar. Many Salem residents, more than ever before, took to skis during this season and spent weekends on the slopes of Mt. Hood and in other favored areas.

It should have been a source of some chagrin that there was no organized, publicized winter sports outing in the Cascades adjacent to Salem. Idanha excursions of the two previous winters were not repeated. Meanwhile other communities stole a march on Salem and drew its outdoor enthusiasts to their activities.

It is one of the functions of the forest service to promote use of the forests. Its officials were also under some pressure to improve various proposed winter sports areas. Since all of these requests could not be fulfilled, an excursion to select the most accessible and best adapted area was recently conducted. A location near the Santiam pass was sought because it would be accessible to people from Salem, Albany, Lebanon, Corvallis and Eugene.

Traveling by snowmobile, the party cruised a considerable area in the Santiam pass region and after considering all factors, unanimously selected a prospective ski run from a point at an elevation of 5709 feet on the slopes of Three Fingers Jack, down to Lost lake at an elevation of 4000 feet.

The decision being made, with the approval of representatives of all the communities most interested, it remains for the winter sports enthusiasts of these communities to lend their support and when the next winter sports season opens, to patronize and promote this area in their own back yard in preference to those farther away.

Sunday night in Yakima the CIO held a mass meeting for farmers, urging them to join the union to "fight vigilantism in the Grange." Alliances and proposed alliances between economic groups in America are as difficult to trace as the political alliances between European nations.

Was this nice? The day after the editor of this newspaper, as a candidate for governor, had made his first important campaign speech, he received a letter from a syndicate trying to interest him in a series of articles on speech defects.

Noting that strikes are springing up like dandelions in the spring-time, with CIO responsible for most of them, a worried letter writer warns the New York Herald Tribune that John L. Lewis is trying to change the meaning of those initials to "Country I Own."

# The Safety Valve

Letters from Statesman Readers

April 11-38

To the Editor:  
I would like to use a little space in your Safety Valve if you will so permit me.

I have noticed lately according to some papers that our governor is claiming now that he is a friend of organized labor.

Well, he might be able to pull that line on Rip Van Winkle but some folks haven't been asleep for the last twenty years. I heard a speech the governor made at the fair grounds on Independence day in 1914. I think it was and it was nothing but a tirade against organized labor from start to finish and I don't think the Leopard has changed his spots any. And there was no soon rounding going on then either, of course the seeds for it might have been planted at that time but it evidently took the warmth of the prospects of another term to get them growing good.

People when voting should remember that promises and hot air are from the mouth only, but actions are from the heart.

Of course for quantity the salvo the governor is passing out can't be beat but the quality is poor and I don't think it's very penetrating. It's strange how some folks wear the truth around their necks like a pretzel and think they are getting away with it.

The kind of organizations the governor is for is the Association of Farmers, so called, the Merchants association, the chambers of commerce and any kind of association that fighting to keep labor in the gutter. Of course he believes the laborer should work, yes, but for whatever the employer wants to pay, and should not have anything to say about the matter.

He believes in the law of the iron heel for the laborers both industrial and agricultural. Talk about dictators, you don't have to go to Europe to find them. We have embryo dictators all around us and they are not all in organized labor either. I wonder how many union men they are using around the state institutions now since the governor has come out espousing the cause of organized labor?

EARL SHARP.

## Special Service Arranged Tonight

Miss Elizabeth Baker, general secretary of Salem YWCA and Mrs. W. E. Kirk, first vice president, left yesterday for Sacramento, Calif., to attend national YWCA convention.

ST. LOUIS—Sunday afternoon palms were blessed and distributed at the 8:00 o'clock mass. Jack Sussee and Francis Schomus became members of the Holy Name society of the Willamette valley.

Wednesday, at 7:30 p.m., rosary, sermon and benediction will be observed at the parish here. After the services the men and boys interested in ball playing met in the sacristy to play organizing ball team. The women of the Altar society also met to make plans for the first card party after Easter, to be held in the St. Louis hall Sunday night, April 24.

Late W. E. Smith Was One-Time Resident of Fairfield Community

FAIRFIELD—William Earnest Smith, for whom funeral services were held last week at Albany, was born at Fairfield February 4, 1873, and spent his boyhood in this community. E. B. Smith of Fairfield is a brother.

Recent guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Dittmars were: Mr. and Mrs. Harry Burns and daughter Patsy of San Francisco, Mrs. Conner of Bremerton and her son from Alaska.

Attend Yamhill Meet DAYTON—Mrs. Cletus Gell, worthy matron of Electa chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, and Mrs. Herman Louis, Mrs. Carl Mitchell, Mrs. Charles Carr, Miss Lena Stillwell, Mrs. Alex Cruikshank and Mrs. W. S. U'ren were members who were guests of Cheowan chapter Eastern Star lodge of Yamhill Wednesday night.

Winter Sports Areas (Continued) It should have been a source of some chagrin that there was no organized, publicized winter sports outing in the Cascades adjacent to Salem. Idanha excursions of the two previous winters were not repeated. Meanwhile other communities stole a march on Salem and drew its outdoor enthusiasts to their activities.

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This latest picture of Britain's prime minister, Neville Chamberlain, was taken as he returned to No. 10 Downing Street, London, following a walk in the park.

# "Music Hath Charms—!"



## Ten Years Ago

April 13, 1928  
C. E. Wilson, Ed. Schunke, and W. W. Rosebraugh have been chosen judges for the talent contest to be held at the Elsinore this week.

The McNary-Hauger farm relief bill which President Coolidge vetoed a year ago was passed by the senate last night.

Miss Elizabeth Baker, general secretary of Salem YWCA and Mrs. W. E. Kirk, first vice president, left yesterday for Sacramento, Calif., to attend national YWCA convention.

## Twenty Years Ago

April 13, 1918  
O. J. Hull has been appointed Captain and George C. L. Snyder first lieutenant of one of four companies of state military police to be organized in Salem.

Arthur Seley, son of Mrs. Etta Seley of Salem, is now a first class yeoman in the U. S. navy, having passed another rigid examination.

Lieut. Hector McQuarrie, formerly serving with the British Royal artillery, will be in Salem Wednesday and will address a mass meeting at the armory in interest of liberty bond fund.

## Hannan Takes Job

SILVERTON—Michael Hannan who has been employed at the Benton grocery for the past three years, has accepted a position at the Julius Aim & Sons store on Water street.

## Attend Yamhill Meet

DAYTON—Mrs. Cletus Gell, worthy matron of Electa chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, and Mrs. Herman Louis, Mrs. Carl Mitchell, Mrs. Charles Carr, Miss Lena Stillwell, Mrs. Alex Cruikshank and Mrs. W. S. U'ren were members who were guests of Cheowan chapter Eastern Star lodge of Yamhill Wednesday night.

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## Prime Minister

This latest picture of Britain's prime minister, Neville Chamberlain, was taken as he returned to No. 10 Downing Street, London, following a walk in the park.

## Radio Programs

- 7:15—United Press News.
- 7:30—Sunrise Sermonette.
- 8:00—The Merry-makers, MBS.
- 8:30—Today's Tune.
- 8:45—United Press News.
- 9:00—The Pastor's Column.
- 9:15—The Friendly Circle.
- 9:45—Streamline Swing, MBS.
- 10:00—Novelty Sing, MBS.
- 10:15—Microphone in the Sky, MBS.
- 10:30—Morning Magazine.
- 10:45—Yoke of Knowledge, MBS.
- 11:00—Community Builder News.
- 11:15—Hawaiian Echoes.
- 11:30—Novelty Sing, MBS.
- 11:45—Value Parade.
- 12:15—United Press News.
- 12:30—Hillbilly Serenade.
- 1:00—Ed Fitzgerald, MBS.
- 1:15—West & Matey, MBS.
- 1:45—Book a Week, MBS.
- 2:00—Development of Music, MBS.
- 2:15—Razzy Week, MBS.
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- 2:45—The Johnson Family, MBS.
- 3:00—Feminine Parade, MBS.
- 3:30—Martin Burandt, MBS.
- 3:45—United Press News.
- 4:00—Patton Lewis, Jr., MBS.
- 4:15—Lawrence Welk's Orchestra, MBS.
- 4:30—Hits of Today.
- 4:45—The Phantom Pilot, MBS.
- 5:00—Spice of Life.
- 5:15—US Marine Band, MBS.
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- 6:00—Dinner Hour Melodies.
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- 6:30—Sports Bulletin, MBS.
- 6:45—United Press News.
- 7:00—Ambassador Hotel Orchestra, MBS.
- 7:30—The Lone Ranger, MBS.
- 8:00—Harmony Hall.
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- 8:30—Jimmy Dorsey's Orchestra, MBS.
- 8:45—Newspaper of the Air, MBS.
- 9:15—Hits and Encores.
- 9:30—Edward's Old Times.
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## Silverton Junior School Society High Play Given

SILVERTON—While many of the audience expressed the opinion that "Hobgoblin House" was too weird a vehicle for the youthful junior high students who presented it, the packed house which greeted it at the Eugene Field auditorium Friday night, agreed that it was exceptionally well done. The interpretation of the characters was particularly exceptional for so young a group of actors and promises much for next year's senior high plays.

No one actor was outstanding in his part but special credit went to those carrying the heavier character parts: Don McIntosh, Jane Irish, Juanita Weickert, Jack Eastman and Doris Whitlock.

Intermission numbers were given by the clarinet and trumpet sextet of the school; piano solo by Wayne Rose and a vocal solo by Marieau Harris. Guy DeLay was in charge of make-ups. Richard W. Pickell of the junior high school department directed the cast.

## Woodburn—Woodburn Chapter No. 29, Royal Arch Masons, Saturday night held 70 persons attending. Members were present from Newberg, Dallas, Salem, Independence, Portland and Woodburn. The Royal Arch degree was conferred upon three candidates by the Pelican degree team from Portland.

Among the honor guests present were Leslie W. Snow, most excellent grand high priest; L. N. Roney of Salem, the oldest past grand high priest in the state; Thomas Sims and Frank W. Settemier of Woodburn, both past grand high priests.

Past matrons of Evergreen chapter No. 41, Order of the Eastern Star, served dinner at 7 p. m. after which the lodge meeting was held.

## Hills Sewing Club

SILVERTON HILLS—The Silvertown Hills Sewing Club will hold an all-day meeting Thursday at the clubhouse. The day will be spent in quilting and a no-hostess luncheon served at noon. Guests are welcomed.

## Silver Cliff Women's Club Stages All-Day Meeting at Fox Home

SILVERTON CLIFF—The Silver Cliff Women's Club met with Mrs. Floyd Fox home hostess Thursday for an all-day meeting. Additional afternoon callers were Rev. and Mrs. D. Lester Fields of Silvertown.