

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
From First Statesman, March 23, 1851

Sheldon F. Sackett - Editor and Manager.

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## Boosting Social Security

As soon as the lower house of congress interred the Townsend plan bill by a luster majority of 302 to 97, a good many editors in Oregon and elsewhere hastened to "jump on the Townsendites while they were down" and point once more to the economic fallacy which they had discovered in the plan four years ago. Many of them also assailed the 97 congressmen and particularly the three from Oregon who voted for the bill, bringing into question both their judgment and their sincerity.

In advance of the inevitable defeat of the bill, The Statesman pointed out the obvious bad faith of the house majority which favored action on the bill, and of the majority in the committee, in sending out a hastily considered measure just introduced, rather than the one which had been before the committee since the previous session of congress and might be presumed to be better drafted and more nearly reasonable. That bill also would have been defeated if brought out; but the majority's strategy leaves an "out" both for members who voted "aye" and for those who voted "no." The latter may explain that they favored the other bill but not this one; the former, that theirs were protest votes. The strategy was made all the more obvious by the arrangement which prevented amendments.

Whatever the merits or flaws of the Townsend plan, its influence in hastening the enactment of social security legislation cannot be denied. It forced the administration to introduce the original social security act; at this session it—and the more radical pension schemes—brought action upon amendments which would liberalize the payments, advance the starting date and delay the increase in social security taxes—the result being a reduction of the "reserves" which are not being kept in the treasury anyway.

On Tuesday word came of a drive to liberalize the old age assistance payments of the temporary social security program, accompanied by a proposal that the federal government accept a heavier share of the cost and thus relieve states of some of the burden. The wisdom of this program in its effect on the federal treasury may also be in doubt.

But the permanent social security law is still subject to criticism on several counts, among them being the harmful effect on business of the tax which creates the reserves, the use of those reserves for current governmental expenses, and its failure to care for the needs of persons in many occupations not covered. These objections, the Townsend plan would avoid. That plan's congressional advocates will always be able to claim, without successful contradiction, that they were working through the Townsend program toward a sensible pension law. How much they would have had to change it, they probably will prefer not to say.

## Legal Responsibility of Unions

Confirmation by the supreme court of the conviction of Al E. Rosser in connection with the West Salem box factory fire writes final upon one chapter of the labor terrorism story in Oregon. It has been demonstrated that in this state the criminal laws and the machinery of justice are adequate to deal with the criminal aspects of such tactics as prevailed in Oregon for several years prior to the "roundup" of 18 months ago.

There remains another chapter—the question of unions' liability for damages resulting from the acts of their agents or members. A civil suit involving insurance in connection with the West Salem case is now under way in federal court, developing some rather startling testimony Tuesday; but the civil actions against unions and their officers have not yet come to trial.

On a grander scale, a similar issue is headed for judicial determination in the east; in a sense it will be a double-barreled test. The CIO has filed claims for \$7,500,000 damages with the NLRB, based upon the board's ruling that 5000 workers were unjustly discharged by Republic Steel, which is also faced with a damage suit involving 16 deaths which resulted from violence in connection with the 1937 "little steel" strike. But Republic Steel has sued the CIO for triple damages under the Sherman act of 1890. It is ironic that this law, enacted for the purpose of curbing monopolies, should be invoked by a large corporation against a labor organization, but it has been successfully invoked in the past—in the famous Danbury Hatters case in which \$232,000 damages were assessed against workers for a secondary boycott, and in the recent Apex Hosiery case in which a lower federal court awarded \$711,932 against individual members of the CIO union.

Like most questions, there are two sides to this one. John S. Friesen, whose West Salem business was wiped out by labor vandalism, is entitled to redress from some source. As to the liability of the law-abiding majority of union members, the argument has so many sides that it is futile to trace them. And there is no intention here to try the cases before they reach the courts, but merely to use the local situation as a concrete example. This is a phase of labor relations which is farther from satisfactory solution and a definite formula, than the points covered in the Wagner act, the details of which are also subject to heated debate in congress and throughout the nation.

## Tax Revision Need Shown

Sometimes when a harmful trend is reversed, one entertains a perverse sense of regret that it didn't continue to the limit, so that the extreme of its damage might have been experienced. When England and France backed down at Munich the world was deprived of the opportunity to find out what would have happened if they had stood pat; when goon tactics were halted in Oregon, the public wondered how bad conditions might have gotten if they had gone unchecked; when recovery of a sort set in after the depression lull, the question as to whether business would have come to a complete standstill remained unanswered.

In this last connection, there is another unanswered query; just what relation the New Deal had to such recovery as did take place. The recovery was world-wide; but from 1932 to 1938, the United States held last place among the major countries in this respect. It had regained 72 per cent of the 1929 volume of production; France, the other nation which had a New Deal, was next at 77 per cent, according to League of Nations figures; The Netherlands had climbed back to 90 per cent as had Canada; Great Britain had gone over the top to 116 per cent; Germany, perhaps by bootstrap pulling, to 126 per cent, but Norway's 127 and Sweden's 153 per cent have no such explanation.

At present the blame for the United States' slow recovery is being placed—by business which ought to know—partly upon Europe's unsettlement but, in so far as any domestic solution is possible, upon the tax program. The vestige of the undistributed profits tax, the capital stock tax and the excess profits tax are the items under fire, not only from business but recently from the treasury department with the conditional support of the White House.

Confidence that the administration will stick to this attitude is scanty, in view of past reversals apparently inspired by the left-wingers among the president's advisors. Nevertheless the nation is weary of uncertainty and disappointments, and the demand for action to back up words is growing steadily.

## Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

The Salem pictures in 6-7-39 Portland Sunday Journal were good, but historical notes need some corrections:

The rotogravure section of the Portland Oregon Journal, last Sunday's issue, devoted a page to "Salem, the Capital City," with splendid pictures. But the historical notes in connection therewith need correcting. The notes follow:

"Salem, 50 miles south of Portland, on the banks of the Willamette river, is not only Oregon's capital city; it is the second city in size in the state; one of the state's most beautiful and the first woolen mill west of the Rockies, 1857; the first federal court (district) session, 1859.

"The community was known as Chemeketa and The Mills as early as 1840; as 'The Institute' in 1842, and finally, in 1846, at the suggestion of W. H. Wilson, member of Jason Lee's Methodist mission, was named Salem meaning 'place of peace.'

"The city has a lumber of 'firsts' to its credit among them the first woolen mill west of the Rockies, 1857; the first federal court (district) session, 1859.

"Most of the state institutions are located at Salem, which also is site of the annual state fair which has grown from small beginnings to large and important proportions.

"Salem is center of the largest hop acreage in the United States, and, with increasing acreage and development of flax, the manufacture of linen loom large.

"Salem's educational pride is Willamette university.

"Willamette, originally known as the Oregon Mission Manual Labor school, is the oldest educational institution in Oregon. It was founded in 1834 by Jason Lee, Methodist missionary, and was incorporated in 1855.

"Old Jason Lee home on Broadway street was the first frame house in Salem, built in 1840.

Correction: The Indian name for Salem's site was Chemeketa, place of meeting, city of refuge; dating back indefinitely. It was known as "The Mills" after the Jason Lee mission mills (saw and grist) were built (under one roof) in 1840; the working mill arriving on the Lausanne June 1, that year, at Fort Vancouver. It was known as "The Institute," beginning with Aug. 13, 1844, when the Oregon Institute opened for its first classes.

It was officially known as Salem Feb. 15, 1850, when the North Salem plat was filed, and when, March 2, that year, the plat of down town Salem was filed, and Jan. 8, 1851, when the plat of the original town was filed; of "Boon's Island," where the mills were located, Rev. David Leslie, from Salem, Mass., named the town, not W. H. Wilson. Note correction in spelling, Wilson, not Wilson.

Willamette university was never known as the "Oregon Mission Manual Labor school." That was the name of the Indian school of the Lee mission. Willamette university was not founded in 1834 by Jason Lee, Methodist missionary, and it was not incorporated in 1855, or at any time.

It was founded February 1, 1842, by an independent board, meeting at the Lee mission (original site 10 miles by water below Salem), its first building, completed in 1843, was on Wallace Prairie (present Bush farm headquarters) a mile north of Salem's north municipal line, but no classes were opened there. That building and clear to its grounds were sold for \$3000 and the money used as part payment of \$4000 for the Indian manual labor school building (costing \$10,000) of the Lee mission, then being dissolved.

The territorial legislature of Oregon, meeting in "rooms of the Oregon Institute chartered that institution as Willamette university, Jan. 13, 1853; probably the only instance in history of an educational institution being chartered by the law making body of the country holding its sessions in a building owned by the institution.

The "Jason Lee home," present 960 Broadway, headquarters

## "Land of the Milk and Honey"



## Radio Programs

KSLM—WEDNESDAY—1300 Kc.

- 6:30—Milkman's Serenade.
- 7:30—News.
- 7:45—Hits and Encores.
- 8:00—Morning Meditations.
- 8:30—Pastor's Call.
- 9:15—Organalities.
- 9:45—Bridget's Minute.
- 10:00—Freddy Nagel's Orchestra.
- 10:15—Welcome Neighbor.
- 10:30—Morning Magazine.
- 10:45—Women in the News.
- 11:00—True Thru.
- 11:15—True Story Dramas.
- 11:30—Piano Quiz.
- 11:45—Value Parade.
- 12:15—News.
- 12:30—Hillbilly Serenade.
- 1:00—Musical Salutes.
- 1:15—News and Music.
- 1:30—Haven of Rest.
- 1:45—Tiny Hills Orchestra.
- 2:00—Popular Varieties.
- 2:15—Singers.
- 2:30—Let's Play Bridge.
- 2:45—Pulvin Lewis, Jr.
- 3:00—Jimmy Dorey's Orchestra.
- 3:15—Welcome Neighbor.
- 3:30—Swingtime.
- 3:45—Edwards Old Timers.
- 4:00—Dinner Hour Melodies.
- 4:15—King and Queen arrive in the US.
- 4:30—Edwards Old Timers.
- 4:45—Tonight's Headlines.
- 5:00—Work Wanted.
- 5:15—The Squires.
- 5:30—The Lone Ranger.
- 6:00—News.
- 6:15—Concert Melodies.
- 6:30—Newspaper of the Air.
- 6:45—Hits of Today.
- 7:00—Edwards Old Timers.
- 7:15—Brad Collins Orchestra.
- 7:30—Fights for Armory.
- 7:45—American School.
- 8:00—Tomorrow's News Tonight.
- 8:15—Stan Myers Orchestra.
- 8:30—The Squires.
- 8:45—Midnight Serenade.

for the mission, was the first residence of any kind erected on the site of Salem by and for whites; work on it began as soon as the saw mill, a few yards away, was ready to operate—in 1840, finished 1841; standing yet on original site.

(The Journal writes: must have had the impression that log or other houses were on Salem's site before 1840. The first house of whites was the one for the mills, under one Oct. The Indian tribes found by the first whites in the Willamette valley had no houses.)

The thanks of Salem, are, however, due to the Portland Journal for its beautiful rotogravure views of the Capital City.

KEY—WEDNESDAY—1180 Kc.

- 6:30—Musical Clock.
- 7:00—Family Allar Hour.
- 7:30—Pinnacled Service.
- 7:45—Business Parade.
- 8:00—Dr. Brock.
- 8:30—Farm and Home.
- 9:15—Agriculture Today.
- 9:30—Patty Jean.

KOJ—WEDNESDAY—940 Kc.

- 6:15—Market Reports.
- 6:30—KOJ Kleck.
- 7:45—News.
- 8:00—Nancy James.
- 8:15—Helen Trent.
- 8:30—Gals Today.
- 8:45—Goldberg.
- 9:00—Let's Be Beautiful.
- 9:15—Years Sincerely.
- 9:30—Big Sister.
- 9:45—Gals Today.
- 10:00—When a Girl Marries.
- 10:15—This and That.
- 10:30—Gals Today.
- 10:45—Pretty Kitty Kelly.
- 11:00—Myrt and Marge.
- 11:15—Hillbilly.
- 11:30—Stepmother.
- 1:00—Bentley's Balance.
- 1:15—Gals Today.
- 1:30—Single Sam.
- 1:45—So You Want to Be.
- 2:00—Helen Trent.
- 2:15—Helen Trent.
- 2:30—Helen Trent.
- 2:45—Let's Be Beautiful.
- 3:00—Newspaper of the Air.
- 3:15—Tea for Two.
- 3:30—Roadmaster.
- 3:45—Star Theatre.
- 4:00—Helen Trent.
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- 11:15—Helen Trent.

KOAC—WEDNESDAY—550 Kc.

- 9:00—Today's Program.
- 9:30—Hammaker's Hour.
- 10:00—Foster's Forecast.
- 10:30—Story Hour for Adults.
- 11:00—Alexander Hall.
- 11:30—Music of the Masters.
- 12:00—Let's Be Beautiful.
- 12:15—Farm Hour.
- 12:30—Let's Be Beautiful.
- 12:45—Club Assembly.
- 1:00—Travel.
- 1:15—Let's Be Beautiful.
- 1:30—Let's Be Beautiful.
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## The Safety Valve

## Letters From Statesman Readers

Letters From Statesman Readers

To the Editor:

We defeated the Townsend bill and it only took us a brace of days to do it. Though it is a reasonable plan that covers all elderly citizens that would surrender their jobs to our junior unemployed and contribute doubly in circulating more money. We will now revamp the pension law we enacted a few years ago and although it only covers not to exceed one-half of our elderly citizens, we will fix it so it will pay those it covers a little better and a little sooner, without any regard of class legislation. We hold our breath as to how we imagine the Townsend plan in effect would cost us, without thinking at all about the alphabetical set-ups that are costing us a lot more tax money which the Townsend plan, if adopted, would immediately eliminate. Commence with the WPA and go on right down the line and see how many governmental set-ups that are a charge on the taxpayers that you can enumerate which the Townsend plan in effect would knock out. Considering the tax burdening governmental set-ups now existing, it's easy to comprehend that the Townsend plan in effect would lower instead of raise our taxes. With all these numerous tax-burdening governmental set-ups we continue to have million unemployed. The Townsend plan in effect would establish all adults on the payrolls and that constitute a prosperity. The only way to forever defeat the Townsend plan is to offer a better one and it is now in sight.

Respectfully,  
R. D. TURPIN.

To the Editor:

Your editorials are, with few exceptions, very good and we regret therefore, the necessity of taking exception to one appearing in the May 25th number of your paper entitled "It Can't Happen Here." As parents and Christian citizens of this fair country, we feel that your editorial must not go unchallenged. "Laugh" indeed! The American people can ill afford to laugh at the numerous subversive activities and propaganda that is being disseminated wholesale throughout our nation. The Bible story tells us that it was while the farmer slept that the enemy sowed his tares in the wheat field and it is likewise with us, who profess Christianity, either sleep or go about dozing with our eyes closed, that all the foreign, hell-born isms are working tirelessly day and night to gain a strange hold upon us as they have done on other nations. The American people are not thinking for themselves, but are swallowing, hook, line and sinker, the Godless propaganda that they read in the papers, hear over the radio or see enacted on the screen. Regardless of what the Saturday Evening Post or any other paper may say to the contrary, we are here to say that Fr. Gerald R. Winrod is every bit a man of God, who is pouring out his very life blood to defend our nation and the Christian faith against the inroads of communism, fascism and all the other hell-born isms that are it work here in America. One of the communists commonly us... Sa-tan's lie is to brand a man whom they recognize as a power against them, as a fascist. That is their cowardly way of blind leading the public eye to the real issue before it. We spent millions of dollars, have over the possible aggression by foreign powers across the seas, while within our country, its very heart is being bored out by the Godless terminate, most of whom are unscrupulous foreigners and we are supposed to see nothing, say

## On the Record

By DOROTHY THOMPSON

### Secretary Hull Cuts the Gordian Knot

Before congress adjourns it should pass Secretary Hull's neutrality legislation as it stands. To leave the neutrality position as it now is, in a time of grave international danger, would be an inaction of supreme frivolity. The existing legislation is unstatesmanlike, amateurish, and it does not have Secretary Hull's support, either of the state department, or of any serious, objective student of foreign affairs.

The proposals of the secretary deserve the most favorable consideration, first, because they come from him. Nobody in the cabinet enjoys a more universal trust and esteem than does the secretary of state. He is not impulsive; he is singularly free from prejudice; he is, in this administration, remarkably consistent; he is not susceptible to pressure groups; and he is a man of peace.

The proposals deserve favorable consideration, in the second place, because they have been worked out through months of thought and discussion, concentrated upon all phases and all possible results of a policy by these people who are here to execute our foreign policy, who know most about the international situation, and who are, for the most part, wholly unpartisan.

They ought to be adopted, in the third place, because they make sense. An embargo on arms to all belligerents, as provided in the present neutrality act, puts us in the position of adopting a rigid policy regardless of what the national interests may or may not be. It cuts off the industrial resources of the United States from those countries which are weakest, which have no great arms industries of their own, which are most unlikely to attack any one, and most likely to be attacked. It is inconsistent, even in this, for it does not make it mandatory to forbid the sale of all essential war materials, and thus is discriminatory against our own industries.

It would forbid the sale of airplanes, for instance, in time of war, but it would not automatically forbid the sale of iron, steel, copper and cotton. And the results of it would simply be that if these were not embargoed too, foreign nations would take our materials and work them up in their own factories, at the cost of our manufacturers.

Politically, the present act is lamentable. The implication that all essential raw materials necessary for war might be embargoed, simply means that in case of a war fought on two oceans, we agree to take our ships off the seas and our goods off the international market, and treat ourselves to a panic and a frightful depression.

Since nothing would more please the aggressive and revolutionary elements in the world, they are heartily pleased with the present act. The German, Italian, and Japanese press all think it is just dandy, and whenever it is suggested that it be amended, they cry "war-monger" at the suggesters.

The proposals of Mr. Hull which have been thought through with great deliberation, are an attempt to achieve the purpose for which the neutrality legislation was originally framed; to keep this country out of war. But they also provide that this country should keep a free hand, with regard to its own national interests; should not put itself in a position where it may be assisting our potential enemies and injuring our friends and they permit us to maintain a maximum of world trade, in the event of foreign war, with a minimum of risk of being embroiled by attacks upon our nationals.

areas. American citizens would not be allowed to travel in those areas. All exports, to any belligerent, would have titles transferred to the foreign purchaser so that they would cease to be American before they left our shores.

Loans and credits to belligerents would be prohibited and the solicitation of funds or belligerents would be controlled. I consider the latter one of the most necessary conditions for obtaining real freedom of action in this country and real national solidarity in case of an international war. Without it every belligerent will be trying to raise a war chest here from sympathizers and the war will be transferred to our own soil in dangerous rifts in public opinion.

And finally, the munition control board should be maintained for the regulation of the arms traffic. If any one thinks that these proposals give great power to our own government let him ask whether he would prefer greater powers to be given to other governments — which is what the present neutrality act, in effect, does.

And let him consider that under the present act a general embargo over all essential war materials—and without that the act would be useless—would mean a complete and total control by the government over the whole foreign trade and a depression which might well mean complete control over all production.

Mr. Hull is to be congratulated on having cut the Gordian knot into which our foreign policy was tied by the present neutrality act. He has offered a program which is not, in the first place, an open invitation to Herr Hitler to take the bit in his teeth and break it out in a new place next week; which is not a promise to cut our own throats for the sake of maintaining peace; which makes it clear that our policy is to keep our own nationals from being killed and our own ships from being torpedoed, which reduces risks to a minimum and keeps freedom and independence at a maximum.

There is no single measure which it is more important for this congress to pass before it adjourns. But there is a good chance that it will not be passed unless public opinion makes itself felt. Copyright, 1939, New York Tribune, Inc.

## Lions' Programs Knocked Haywire

Chairman Says 'Come, See' Only Way of Telling What'll Happen

The program chairman of the Salem Lions club has sworn off announcing his luncheon club offering in advance, after two false starts in a row, according to this week's issue of The Capitol Lion, the club bulletin.

"We absolutely refuse to be responsible for the program this week," the bulletin announces. "Two weeks ago we promised motion pictures but instead we thoroughly enjoyed a talk about stunt men by Captain Bob Ward. Last week again we told all and sundry that we would be shown moving pictures but instead we had a thrill of listening to a humorous dissertation on movie life by our distinguished visitor Edward Everett Horton, the great comedian. So instead of sticking out our necks again, we merely say, come one, come all, to see for yourself what will happen this Thursday noon at the Marion hotel.

The club so enjoyed Actor Horton's talk last week that it elected him to the permanent honorary with the Lions' label emblem.

## Center on Squalus Raising

Moving south, the Navy High Command in Washington makes plans to raise the Squalus twelve miles off Portland, N. E. Planned in conference are Rear-Admiral A. P. Fairfield, master, and standing I to I, Commander A. L. McKee, Capt. Harry Williams and Commander A. R. McCann. They are looking over charts of Squalus' path.

## Time Change Today Only

Due to special broadcasts of arrival of king and queen of England in the U. S. at 6:15 p.m. The "Work Wanted" Program will be heard tonight at 7:00 p.m. MBS KSLM 1300 Kc.