

By DOROTHY THOMPSON

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"

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Bureaucratic Meddling in Local Affairs

Hint of an impending shakeup in the federal social security management may convey a promise of relief to state agencies which have been harassed by the meddling of this and other federal bureaus...

The report is that Paul V. McNutt, federal security administrator, discussed with President Roosevelt the need of a change involving elimination of the present three-man social security board, replacing it with a single director or placing the agency directly under McNutt's control.

This reputedly general trend of thought is of encouraging interest to the Oregon state government and particularly to the state and county welfare commissions.

More directly under the social security board's control is our state unemployment compensation setup, though with more ostensible justification in that the federal government defrays all of the administration costs.

Whatever the justification for this particular federal control, certainly there was none for the federal board's recent attempt to dictate the appointment of an employee in the state treasurer's office for the sole reason that he handled some of these funds.

But if state agencies are hoping a possible shakeup in Washington may afford them relief from this type of meddling, they may be disappointed—especially if Paul McNutt himself "takes over." His record in Indiana state administration and in the Philippines lends no weight to the theory that he would be any improvement over Arthur Altmeyer, et al.

Slightly Sour Pickles

This is Thanksgiving time, but small thanks will more than one county official return for the dish of slightly sour pickles passed out on Tuesday by the state auditors in their report on county fiscal records for the year 1938.

This latter point, in fact, is perhaps the most significant aspect of this county audit: it shows minor faults, minor errors, minor irregularities which in themselves are of relatively little moment, and even in the aggregate do not bulk large.

But take another point, before one specifies certain of the minor faults indicated: though the audit report does not specifically refer to it, there is little doubt that in more than one instance certain fiscal customs of county officials have a pragmatic if not a strictly legal sanction.

Obviously no good is to come from compromise with sloppy business methods in county offices, and with all due respect to human frailty, etc., there is a clear room for improvement along the ill-lit courthouse corridors.

Civil Liberties and Private Property

Decisions of the United States supreme court in invalidating four cities' handbill ordinances are of interest in Salem although their application, if any, to the long-established and widely appreciated local regulation is not entirely clear.

Salem's handbill ordinance forbids distribution of such "literature" in automobiles or on householders' porches. In this respect it differs from the Los Angeles, Milwaukee and Worcester ordinances which forbid such distribution on public streets.

It was the constitutional guaranty of a free press which impelled the supreme court to invalidate these ordinances, taking into account the nature of pamphlets as "historical weapons in the defense of liberty."

But if the decisions also invalidate ordinances prohibiting the dumping of handbills on private property, it must be protested that citizens' security in their homes and other possessions is likewise guaranteed by the constitution.

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

History and destiny 11-24-39 of Salem linked with the story of missions, with most strange starts:

"So ends this series. But some related matters will have attention in this column soon. Those were the concluding words of the series concerning the celebration of the 90th birthday of Mrs. Edna Raymond, former prominent Salem woman, at her home in South Oregon...

In that series the information was given that the historic First Congregational church of Salem was organized July 4, 1852, by I. N. Gilbert and wife, A. M. Fellows, and Mrs. L. L. Williams.

Isaac N. Gilbert is an important name in the story of Salem and Oregon Congregationalism. He was born in Rushville, New York, and knew Dr. Marcus Whitman there.

What Mr. Gilbert discovered was that the federal government defrays all of the administration costs. This justification fades somewhat when it is realized that the commission administers a fund raised strictly by a state tax upon employers.

Both Olds and Tate borrowed liberally from an original idea of Power commissioner Basil Matly, but mainly did not work with them in perfecting the present form.

Mr. Gilbert also surveyed the pioneer public road from Salem to Foster's, meaning from the capital Salem to the western end of the historic Barlow road over the Cascades.

Mr. Gilbert had a nice residence at the southwest corner of Front and Marion streets, Salem, and he also had a fine farm home on his claim fronting the Garden Road.

A. M. Fellows, the fourth original member of the Salem First Congregational church, was known as "Boon's Island" between the two original Salems.

Fellows became first lieutenant of the Salem company, commanded by Capt. Charles Bennett, one of the three men from the Salem district who discovered gold at Sutter's mill race in California in 1848.

Captain Bennett was killed at the battle of Walla Walla on December 7, 1855, the same engagement in which Chief Peopemozox of the Cayuse Indian tribe lost his life.

How did missions, such as the one which started Salem, get started? And the one which was responsible for the beginning of Congregationalism in this coast?

Accused Slayer To Be Sentenced

POCATELLO, Idaho, Nov. 23. (AP)—Aloysius Edwin Kilmer, 39, of Oregon City, Ore., pleaded guilty today to a charge of voluntary manslaughter after being held in jail here since last summer on a charge of murder.

He was accused of slaying a transient, tentatively identified as Thomas Barney, aged 59, in railroad yards here last July 17.

Accused Slayer To Be Sentenced

"Knight Errant"

By JACK McDONALD

Chapter 20 Continued

Slam was still feeling miserable when he saw Comanche—now famed as "The Flying Indian"—arrive at the Santa Anita railroad station.

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"A wild goose chase!" Edith had warned Slam. And today, three weeks after Knight Errant had stepped off the car to begin his big race campaign, Slam knew Edith was right.

Slam was convinced of something he had never suspected before—that Knight Errant was just a sprinter. When asked to go over three-quarters of a mile he chuckled it.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Mr. Roosevelt's high voltage power squad has prepared a new program for the public utilities. Private Utilist Wendell Willkie has already announced he feels another government shock coming.

It is an Olds-Tate program, worked up by Leland Olds, new presidential appointee to the defense power committee, and an engineer there, Thomas Tate, Mr. Olds, a former member of the New York state power authority, is the kind of energetic crusading liberal that Mr. Roosevelt likes.

Both Olds and Tate borrowed liberally from an original idea of Power commissioner Basil Matly, but mainly did not work with them in perfecting the present form.

1. The public utilities must provide 1,000,000 kilowatts more power capacity as a measure of national defense.

2. Private utilities will be asked to install \$50,000,000 more in capacity in their plants for national defense.

3. Another further extension of the tieups will be recommended, but this will involve more money than the utilities can raise or pass on the consumers.

Overlooked political importance of Mr. Roosevelt's cornerstones laying at his Hyde park library lay in the list of guests who were invited and named.

European Peace Hopeless?

This excellent map illustrates the slender hope of peace now being carefully nursed in Europe. England suggests "guarantees of non-aggression" become an integral part of the Reich. France suggests "reparation of injustices" Germany has imposed.

COIN-FRIDAY-840 Kc.

6:00—Market Reports.

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shop to keep a breakfast appointment with her, he determined to advise her to withdraw her horse from the big race—to save Knight Errant from further humiliation and Heather the thousand dollar entry fee for sending him on a "wild goose chase."

"But the hopeful look in Heather's eyes checked him when he joined her. She handed him a note, with some difficulty he read the scarcely legible scribbling.

"Miss Mills: Come to Sunset Hospital, Room 213 at once. It will help Knight Errant."

"It sounds too fantastic to mean anything," Slam told Heather. "But Slam, this looks like Charlie Bassitt's handwriting."

"Come with me," a nurse said, and they moved down a long corridor, conscious of the unpleasant smell of ether.

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COIN-FRIDAY-850 Kc.

6:30—Milkman's Melodies.

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the raised bed, his features wracked with woe. His chin drooped. There was a strained absence for a moment.

"I'm in awful bad shape," he wailed. "They're giving me ETHER tomorrow. But I didn't ask you here for sympathy. Before I go the knife. It's about your horse, Miss Mills."

"It ain't easy to tell," Bassitt said remorsefully. "You will be mad about it but I got to tell you—I got to. All I ask is that you won't turn me in to the racing judges—if I live!"

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Further Reasons for Optimism

If one reads the contemporary Allied periodicals—I am most familiar with the British—the absence of anything even approaching the hate-mongering and high-pressure ballbar is amazing.

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Another thing seriously worth recording is that the thinking of the articulate individuals and groups in Great Britain is infinitely more radical, even more revolutionary than that in Germany and Russia.

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Douris Elected Council Leader

Don Douris, representative to the World Christian Youth conference in Amsterdam last summer, was elected president of the Salem Christian Youth Council during a meeting at the New Youth Center Tuesday night.

The meeting followed a tour of the Deaconess hospital, which sponsors, jointly with the council, the Sunday afternoon radio program, "Young People's Church of the Air."

Also appointed were George Bowen as radio chairman and Tom Allport as publicity chairman.

Tentative plans were made for several events during coming months.

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Radio Programs

COIN-FRIDAY-1200 Kc.

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Radio Programs

COIN-FRIDAY-1100 Kc.

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