

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.

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### Acquaintance

Relative to the state CIO council's repudiation of the Labor Newdealer which is edited by Lee Coe, formerly of Salem, no opinion was expressed by The Statesman, which merely made note of the occurrence and quoted, in part, the comment of the Woodburn Independent. Subsequently this newspaper received from Coe a Safety Valve letter, which was published, and accompanying it a personal letter and clippings from the Labor Newdealer and other CIO publications which shed considerable light on the situation.

It should be understood that the Newdealer remains the official publication of the Portland CIO council. The clippings disclose that the state council's action has some relation to the schism within the CIO in Oregon and indicates the present ascendancy of the comparatively conservative Hartung-Helmick faction in the timber workers' union. That group being in control, repudiation of the Newdealer was virtually a foregone conclusion, for the paper has pulled no punches in opposing it and denouncing it as "disloyal" to the CIO movement.

On this issue as between CIO factions, again The Statesman does not care to offer opinion—beyond observing that no matter who is right or who is wrong, the violent disagreement and especially the charges of bad faith are unfortunate for the CIO and for labor in general.

Organized labor is already split into the CIO and AFL and whatever else may be said, there is a lot of sincerity on both sides. Now it appears that there is discord within the younger of these elements—discord which cannot fail to detract from its effectiveness.

Interest in the Labor Newdealer incident, in Salem and in Woodburn, has chiefly to do with Lee Coe's role rather than with the domestic difficulties of the CIO. The evidence that action taken by the state CIO council had its basis in these difficulties puts a different light upon the episode even though it does not indicate who is right and who is wrong.

It remains to be noted that in his vigorous support of one faction in the controversy, Coe made frequent and disparaging mention of the "capitalist press." Yet he wrote a friendly and frank letter to the editor of The Statesman, stating his case and outlining his personal reaction to publicity the incident had received in his "old home town" of Salem. Somehow, you see, he failed to identify the fellow in whose company he had some months ago sipped a "coke" and discussed the imperfections of human nature, with the wicked "capitalist press." And of course throughout the entire episode, the editor was unable to identify Lee Coe, the well-intentioned and personable young fellow who grew up in Salem, with "that trouble-making radical" denounced in some other quarters. It just goes to illustrate what personal acquaintance does to such issues. Furthermore it explains why class war and vilest disagreement on a class basis can flourish only in big cities. In the smaller communities prejudice and bitterness are always modified by personal acquaintance.

### Explanation

The Duce made more of a spectacle of himself than a very heroic figure when he recounted the failures, lost chances and mistaken hopes of his armies in Libya and Albania last Sunday morning. His apology was at best weak—it was a fine summary of most of the ineptness which he has so often denounced in other statesmen—and as for the timing, the Duce properly proved that his troops had not been the only Italians who had been forced to move long before they were ready.

In general the Duce openly admitted that Italy has done exactly what he has always said it would never do: he admitted that it was forced to go to war unprepared, that it attacked Greece when it was unready and because it was "forced" to do so, that the Libyan campaign went sour because Graziani needed "five or ten" more days to perfect his own onslaught against the British army of the Nile.

The Duce himself, usually the most positive man who ever faced a microphone, was vacillating and inconclusive compared to his usual performances; compared to Churchill's masterly address three weeks ago, he was almost ridiculous. He dabbled in the usual axis humor with respect to America—"it is more likely that the United States will be invaded from Mars than from the axis"—and although history will record that his audience "roared with laughter," it will not thereby increase respect either for the audience or the humor. It was a ham performance.

The words of the Duce were without significance; but the fact that he uttered them was important. The fact that he was forced to gather the faithful into the Adriano theater on a few hours notice, harangue them on the subject which must be uppermost in every Italian mind, feed them thin excuses to explain a catalogue of blunders, and promise them only a victory won by airman and tank drivers of another nation is quite a lot to take, even for a docile fascist. And the Italians, whatever their other shortcomings, are not by nature a particularly docile people.

### Probate

Members of the Marion county delegation in the legislature participated in the sponsoring of HB 27, which has been approved by both houses, transferring probate and juvenile court duties from the county judge to the circuit judge—in "certain counties."

Unfortunately because of opposition which developed in some sections of the state, the number of "certain counties" affected was drastically reduced. As finally approved the bill applies only to Clackamas and Klamath counties. This change was effected by providing that the transfer of duties might occur only in counties between 35,000 and 100,000 population, which comprise a single judicial district. Thus it does not apply to Marion county, which shares a judicial district with Linn. If

this district is divided as has been proposed, the law will affect this county.

There has been rather widespread sentiment here in favor of transferring particularly the probate duties to the circuit court because county judges usually are not lawyers; though by the same token, county judges usually are not chosen for their ability to guide, or to administer a program of guidance for, wayward children. It is to be hoped that either through the proposed judicial district change or through a legislative enactment at a session not too far in the future, the transfer of duties may become effective here.

A young woman from Salem, Elizabeth Steed, succeeds a young woman from Salem, Betty Buchanan, as president of the Associated Women Students at the University of Oregon. We presume it does not detract from the individual credit due each of them, to suggest that here is evidence that the Salem environment for youth, including its school system, is favorable to the development of constructive leadership.

A diet expert says there are 45,000,000 Americans "below the safety line in diet." There are probably as many above the safety line, and so the problem is to feed 'em in the middle area.—LaGrande Observer.

The Astorian-Budget thinks Gen. Hugh Johnson's nose "sharply resembles that of W. C. Fields." It is our impression that those two prominent noses resemble each other, not sharply but bluntly.

## News Behind The News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 24—At last it may be disclosed to a panting world exactly what Mr. Roosevelt meant when he said the industrial Mr. Knudsen and the laboring Mr. Hillman were two hearts that would beat as one. He meant they would do it even if they had to skip a couple of beats, or even four, five or fifty—or else, regardless.

Let me tell it: The office of production management asked Henry Ford to build a new plant for production of four-engine bomber parts. The question arose where the new plant was to be located. Mr. Knudsen personally picked out a site at Ypsilanti, Mich., near Detroit. He knows that area well.

Dissent came first from Chester Davis, the farm leader now a member of the federal reserve board, who believes new plants should be put into rural areas—certainly away from industrial areas where labor shortages in certain lines already are evident. But Mr. Davis is only an adviser in the dwindling defense commission. He was not even transferred to OPM. Someone who was, took up his argument, Mr. Sidney Hillman, whose cardiac sympathies were irretrievably aligned to Mr. Knudsen in the romantic conception of the new set-up, offered by the president. This was apparently to be their first skip.

After much discussion, Mr. Knudsen finally concluded by saying the factory would go to Ypsilanti anyway. The adverse beat, which was Mr. Hillman's, serving also for Mr. Davis, fell in tune at first, but then bounced back with the suggestion that instead the factory be built at Toledo. Hillman's contention was that the entire population of Ypsilanti would not be sufficient to man the Ford factory.

Mr. Knudsen pondered, said no again. Mr. Hillman thought it over, finally coined a new and perhaps historic response. He "gave his consent without his approval." Consent without approval may be likened to the solution devised by the pursued young lady who responded in the negative but acted in the affirmative.

The two hearts are beating okay again. The whole defense regime here bent back a couple of notches upon receiving the advice from another government department—advice not yet officially confirmed—that the British would produce commercial airplanes for Brazil, with our money. It sounds fantastic, and convincing confirmation is lacking, but it was good enough to be discussed as true, in a defense council of government officials, so it is good enough to pass along to you.

The US loaned \$100,000,000 to Brazil for the overall purpose of promoting American business. The Brazilians, however, want to buy some things we cannot spare. They came to officials of the defense commission with a request to be allowed to purchase 21 planes, commercial ships, not fighters. Defense officials did not spend much time figuring that one. Their major purpose is to build planes for Britain to save democracy. They ruled the order could not be filled.

That sounded fair enough until they recently received information from the other government department, as I have said, claiming that Brazil had gone to the British thereafter and had succeeded in placing the same order. The planes are to be produced by the British at Coventry in England, according to this information.

This would mean that Brazil is using our money to buy planes from Britain, and at a time when we are breaking our necks producing planes for Britain to save the world, at our expense.

It makes more sense than you might think, if you consider that Britain must sell something to South America in payment for the food she is buying. Every plane may be vital to her success, but so is canned meat and coffee. A few planes would be worth a lot of coffee, even with our money.

Odd, and probably true, even though very loud and outraged denials may have to be made.

The bill making it legal for any government department to tap your telephone on suspicion, justified or not, is being widely ignored even by its sponsors. A witness before the house judiciary subcommittee complained sharply because only one congressman appeared to hear him. Incidentally he described the bill partly as a move to ruin the stock of AT&T. No one could afford to use the telephone except for grocery orders if it were adopted. Short sellers would clean up . . .



Asiatic "Pandora's Box"—Made in Germany

## Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

A solo cussing match 2-25-41 that will interest some members of present Oregon legislature; high to low estate:

Passing by the northwest corner of South Commercial and Ferry streets, Salem, one day last week, the ears of this columnist were greeted with a string of cusswords more variegated and embellished than he has heard since he and his pinto dog herded hogs on Pine Creek above Weston, in the heart of this sagebrush empire, or worked with the first threshing machine gang in the lovely Shoestring valley, Douglas county.

These cusswords bore the stamp of justifiable circumstance; as though they were the only expletives that would fit the occasion.

They were delivered by a man working for one of the sanitary companies of the capital city; meaning a concern that in the old days we would have called one collecting garbage; or scavenger.

Getting the gist of the burden of complaint that called forth the occasion for the man "swearing a blue streak," because he had spilled a great boxful of what he had collected in the building on that corner, and was engaged, in a heavy shower, in gathering the spilled miscellany from the muck and mire, this writer tried to console him with the statement that the building from which he had collected the matter is a highly historic structure.

But this only added tone and temper to the tempest of cussing. "The idea that a white man should get so low as to be obliged to handle such a mess," he exploded, with a new line of profanity more profane than what had served as tall cussing before.

He was told that the building from which he had taken the—er, sanitary supplies, or the rubbish, the garbage, was among the first if not the first three story brick building erected in Salem.

## Today's Garden

By LILLIE L. MADSEN

T.R.—Asks when to fertilize his lawn and what.

It is well to start at once. Use a balanced commercial fertilizer, 3 to 4 pounds per 100 square feet. It is now being advised in the Willamette valley to continue lawn fertilization each six weeks until mid October. A good thick stand of grass will keep the weeds out.

W.N.—Asks when to fertilize the trees.

This should be done in the spring from the middle of March until about June 10. Allow one pound of balanced commercial fertilizer for each inch of circumference of tree trunk measured at a height of four feet.

Remember in fertilizing anything, follow the directions that come with the material just as closely as you follow a doctor's prescription.

Also remember that commercial fertilizer, unless you are working it into a bed, should not be put on dry ground. Water the soil first.

B.C.—Soilfix is a tester available at most garden stores and will tell you what to do with the wrong kind of soil.

B.O.—Certainly you can move your primroses now. In fact primroses can be moved at almost anytime of the year. There are two things to look out for closely in growing primroses: strawberry worms and draught in summer.

that the Oregon legislature met there, the house in the third and the senate in the second story (territorial and state) for about 20 years, beginning with the 1857 session and lasting till 1876, when enough of the capitol that was burned the night of April 25, 1935, the second capitol to burn on the same spot, was finished so that room was afforded therein for the session of that year, though the hall of the house was not ready for a long time thereafter.

The cussing was told that in that historic building, in the same period, were the offices of the territorial and state treasurers, secretaries of state, etc., and the U. S. government office for federal road builders, including Fighting Joe Hooker, etc., and that the election in that building of United States Senators E. D. Baker (the world's greatest orator) and J. W. Nesmith probably saved the Union; aided vastly in the prosecution victoriously of the Union armies; as Baker and other friends in Oregon, such as Jesse Applegate, had made the nomination and

election of Abraham Lincoln for President possible.

But all that story only heightened the flow of profanity by the laborer gathering the muck from the rain-drenched ruck of the street.

### SPECIAL TO LEGISLATORS

This writer would like to say that house bill 92 of the present session of the Oregon Legislature deserves attention. It was introduced by Representatives Wells, Chindgren, Erwin, Duncan, Bolvin, Brady, Perry Hedlund, Hockett, Neuberger, Hill, Thomas, Jenkins, Hosch and Senators Lee and Kaufmann. It proposes to provide financial help from the state to school districts giving special training to physically handicapped children with normal or superior mentality. Caan the reader think of any cause more deserving, in the cases where, without that special aid, such children may be utterly denied the advantages they so compellingly need?

What would you, were you the not financially well to do father or mother of such a child?

## The Safety Valve

Letters from Statesman Readers

1776

To the Editor: People of the west, Bill 1776 is now in the senate, will be possibly a week or so longer. There is no other way to save America, to keep us out of war, than to defeat this vicious bill 1776. This bill gives one man, much more power than is needed to aid Britain. It gives him power to lead us into war, and to ruin our country. I think the granting of such power would "cry to heaven for vengeance." Don't let our congressmen do it.

Bolt that bill 1776, kill that bill if you love America, the free way of living, everything that democracy stands for.

We celebrate the birthday of our own glorious George Washington, the first president of the USA. What would he say if he could speak to the people of his country? The country he fought to free from British tyranny, the yoke of John Bull.

I'm positive he would say, Defeat that bill! We'd all do his bidding, wouldn't we? So let us do it now.

George Washington "trusted in God." He was a God-fearing man. We "trust in God" and likewise, want to be God-fearing people. Let us depend on God, by His decision let us abide. Let us ask Him to lead our senators right, give them the light to see the way that is best for Uncle Sam.

The Lord of Hosts has said "You cannot serve two masters." No indeed, none of us can. We cannot serve Uncle Sam, and serve another nation besides Uncle Sam. It is impossible, people.

Wire, phone or write to our Senators, Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC. Do it before it is too late. Tell them to defeat bill 1776 and God speed you all. Remember, I'm sincere, I'm for Uncle Sam alone.

M. B. DABNEY,  
Mt. Angel, Oregon.

MILL CITY

To the Editor: Mill City, Oregon, the town that was depicted by many to become a ghost town when the great Hammond Lumber company pulled the pin and folded up their saw mill plant here in the spring of 1935, after it had been the life blood of the town, and community for 40

years. The town and community today present an obvious surprising picture, the work and intelligence of its citizens that did not choose to lay down to defeat.

Mill City of today is not a town of old shacks usually seen in interior sawmill towns, instead it has many beautiful modern houses small and large, and beautiful lawns, shade trees and flower gardens well groomed and cared for, and an enterprising citizen, since the town passed from the hands of a company rule into the hands of private individual cooperative procedure in 1935. Mill City today has a sawmill plant that sprang up in 1936 from the cooperative efforts of its determined citizens. It rose from seemingly nothing until today it has a daily capacity of 100,000 feet lumber turn out, and it is constantly improving and increasing. Its lumber when loaded on the cars is second to none; has the reputation of being very beautiful lumber.

Also Mill City has a lumber planing and processing plant that buys and finishes rough lumber from all the small sawmills in the North Santiam canyon adjacent to Mill City. This enterprise sprang up in 1936 from the cooperative efforts of the town's citizens. Mill City is the junction and shipping center of the North Santiam valley, all lumber and logs of this section are loaded on the trains at Mill City and shipped to their destination via the SP railroad. From six to ten long train loads of lumber and logs roll out of Mill City every day. Mill City in its Hammond Lumber company heyday never could claim more than 1500 population. She claims that number today. Mill City has a first class grade A and high school with staff of 15 teachers, and an enrollment of 350 students. She has three churches, and three pastors, eight stores, one of which is illuminated with the modern fluorescent lighting system, three restaurants, two taverns, two barber shops, two beauty parlors, three hotels, one meat market, one bank, one modern equipped auto court, and one modern hospital and a good doctor. All of which are boosters for their town and community. Mill City has a modern

## Editorial Comments

From Other Papers

### FOR STATE AUDITING

Readers of this column have observed (with, we trust, not too much dissatisfaction, that a favorite subject of discussion has been municipal book keeping including proper budget making, adequate record keeping and competent auditing. As a result of our study, we think it fair to say, material improvement in local methods has been brought about and considerable sums saved for the taxpayers. On account of that interest and the possibility of still further savings we are glad to note that the association of county judges and commissioners will sponsor a bill making the employment of the state division of audits mandatory on the counties. We get the news from a recent editorial in the Salem Statesman reprinted on this page today.

So far as present practice in Deschutes county is concerned the measure, if enacted, will make no change. The division of audits is now employed for the county work as it has been for the past few years. It was not so long ago, however, that private auditors were employed not so long before that the lowest bidder for the job got it. The work was poorly done and in one year, at least, we were able to point to glaring errors. The day may come when a court will think it will save money by returning to that type of work. The enactment of the proposed measure will prevent the making of that mistake.

We cannot go all the way with The Statesman in its implication that had it not been private auditors who were doing the Wasco county work to which it refers the Duvall irregularities would have been discovered sooner. State auditors failed to discover the irregularities in the accounts of the city of Bend and state auditors have erred in budget preparation here. We are for them, nevertheless, and we know that as their body of experience grows so will the quality of their work.

We trust that the proposed measure is pressed to passage.—Bend Bulletin.

### CHAMPOEG CENTENNIAL

In 1943 Oregon will celebrate the centennial of the Champoege vote which is of such great importance in the early history of our northwest country. Controversy rages over just what occurred at Champoege on May 2, 1843 and we find students of the early history divided on that event's importance. However, regardless of whether we hold that then and there the northwest country became definitely a territory of the United States, or that the occasion settled the matter of forming some local government or not, we still must recognize that those early settlers considered it a most important occasion.

Newberg is really the gateway to Champoege for this is the nearest city of any size to the famous spot of northwest history. Furthermore, it is quite generally conceded that the death of Ewing Young, whose farm home was located west of Newberg and whose estate needed governmental supervision, was the cause of the meeting and this makes another link of Newberg with the Champoege event.

In 1943 the celebration should

## Your Federal Income Tax

DEDUCTION FOR DEPRECIATION

The Internal Revenue Code provides for "a reasonable allowance for the exhaustion, wear and tear of property used in the trade or business, including a reasonable allowance for obsolescence." For convenience, such allowance usually is referred to as depreciation.

In claiming a deduction for depreciation several fundamental principles must be observed. The deduction must be confined to property actually used in a trade, business, or profession, and to improvements on real property, other than property used by the taxpayer as his personal residence. In general, it applies to the taxpayer's capital assets—buildings, machinery, etc.—the cost of which cannot be deducted as a business expense.

A lawyer, doctor, or other professional man may not charge off as a current expense the cost of a library used wholly in his profession, this being a capital expenditure and the library a capital asset; but he may deduct an allowance for depreciation based upon the useful life of the library. If part of a professional man's residence is used by him for office purposes, a proportionate amount of the depreciation sustained may be deducted, based generally on the ratio of the number of rooms used for such purposes to the total number of rooms in the building. The same principle applies if a taxpayer rents to others a portion of his residence. Under such conditions, however, the taxpayer must include in his gross income the rentals received.

fire house and department that has the reputation of being death on fire. And not an empty residence house in town. This is the picture of Mill City of today, the progress of a purely cooperative spirit of a good neighbor citizenry.

R. D. TURPIN.

be one of nationwide importance. It should be given every form of publicity possible. It should attract students of history from all parts of the country to this famous spot. Thus Newberg should come in for some real national publicity.

It is not too early for Newberg people to begin giving careful consideration to the coming celebration of Champoege's centennial. Two years may seem like a long time in which to prepare for an event but if that event is to be of any real significance and to get the recognition which is due it, then we shall have to begin now to lay plans and start publicity to tie Newberg in with the celebration.

This celebration is not something which Newberg will dictate, but unless Newberg gives their fullest cooperation to it, this city will fall in its opportunity and will receive little or no recognition when the celebration is held. By all means let's begin now to see that we are included in the event and that it is sufficiently well developed to properly represent the event of 100 years ago.—Newberg Graphic.

The reappointment of Henry Cabell as a member of the state highway commission is good news for Oregon. It means that the largest department of the state will be served by a chairman who deals courteously with everyone yet carries on his duties with intelligence and firmness, when firmness is necessary in the public interest. The highway commissioners receive no pay whatsoever and it is especially important that the Multnomah county member, who is the natural man for chairman, should be capable and have a real liking for public service.—Pendleton East-Oregonian.

The difference between the appeasers and the isolationists is easy to define. The appeaser is the fellow who goes to a picnic and, to avoid having the ants crawl all over him, gives them the cake. The isolationist simply stays away from the picnic.—Corvallis Gazette-Times.

## Wotan's Wedge

By FRANCIS GERARD

Chapter 23, Continued

"Adelheid von Reinhold" exclaimed Klotter.

The other looked at him curiously. "Do you know her?" he asked.

"Yes, she is General von Wafflenfel's niece and is staying with him. I saw her the other day." "The devil you did!" commented the other. "Well, she has good reason to remember Eric Stutz," and his finger pointed to a section further down the typed record.

Klotter read it. It seemed that Stutz had not long remained in domestic service; he left his employment with three ribs broken and half dead after a severe thrashing from which he recovered to find himself in prison. The record stated baldly, "for insulting the young Baroness Adelheid."

"The animal!" snarled Klotter. "She must be very charming, this Adelheid." Was Gleiner's schrewd, if smiling, observation.

Secret Agent Klotter said nothing as he continued to study Stutz's record. Eric evidently was one of the early Storm Troopers and when the Nazis came to power rose with them. He became a Section Leader in his native village on the Austrian frontier; there he was able to get even with former enemies now that he was in a position to make them grovel. He did. He also made money on the side, breaking the Nazi currency laws and taking fifty per cent of money smuggled across into Austria from Germany.

Klotter rose to his feet, with the question "What would you say, Raphael, was this man's vital weakness?"

"Women! Obviously!" Hermann Rothstein, alias Siegfried Klotter, nodded solemnly in grim agreement. He would not try to avoid Stutz in London now. He had another score to settle with him.

Chapter 24

During the course of his long and successful police career, Sir John Meredith had had more than his share of glowing publicity but he quite honestly loathed ballyhoo. He was humbly pleased indeed when some body, whose opinion he valued, patting him on the back of course. Moreover, he did not suffer from false modesty. He was an individualist essentially.

But now, as Sir John sat in the morning room of his home one gloomy winter's day after breakfast, he decided that this new case which he had stumbled upon was too big, too important, to be kept to himself. One of the secrets of Meredith's extraordinary success was his ability to pick the right man and to use him in the right way. . . . So Meredith telephoned Scotland Yard and asked for Inspector Bradford.

"Bradford speaking," came a voice.

"Look, Bradford," said John without thinking. "I want to see you. Very important matter. When can I call?"

"Eleven-thirty at the office here."

(To Be Continued)