

From The Open Forum

To the Editor:—I used to live in Salem years ago but have not been there for many years, so when some friends offered me a pre-Memorial day trip I accepted gladly. It was a wonderful trip, the fourth part of the town had grown clear out of my recollection, the capitol building is fine, although I missed the big homes that used to surround the old capitol. Your streets are as wide and lovely as I remembered them and I was very happy at seeing everything until we got out to the old IOOF cemetery. Was that a shock!

I can't understand how a city the size of Salem would stand for such a place as a resting place for loved ones. Wild pea vines and weeds knee high; lovely shrubs butchered back and dying. Isn't there an IOOF lodge in Salem any more or isn't there a national headquarters of the lodge that ought to look after the obligations of the Salem lodge if that no longer exists? When they sold these lots they must have had some obligation for their care!

Maybe it looked worse after coming from your beautiful Belcrest, which anyone would admire. But the looks of that cemetery where my folks are buried certainly spoiled the trip for me.

Amelia M. Ansthruthers, Portland—C. J. Fri., May 31

how her otherwise lovely trip was marred. She is right. A trip out there would spoil anyone's day.

It is the poorest kept cemetery in or around Salem, though it is the closest to our city center and takes care of the remains of many of our most prominent former citizens.

Perhaps the Odd Fellows lodge is non functioning. Or perhaps it is funds they are lacking. If the former is the trouble let the city take over, or if the latter is the difficulty, I would like to suggest that in April of next year they make a plea through the paper or by a committee and I am sure that many who have loved ones out there would be happy to send in a dollar apiece and in no time raise enough money to hire several men to clean that place up before Decoration day rolls around. It is certainly no incentive to folks from out of town to come and clean up the graves, so the whole place takes a downward road, growing steadily more neglected.

I might add that the city requires private citizens to cut the tall grass on their vacant lots before they become a hazard or too unsightly. Surely the cemetery needs a notification sign right now.

No doubt the pioneers who purchased lots from the Odd Fellows were given some assurance of perpetual care. That trust has certainly been violated.

Mrs. E. E. Charlton—June 5, '46

An Open Letter to the Public Concerning The Odd Fellows Cemetery

There has been much criticism from time to time concerning the condition of the Odd Fellows Cemetery and we re-print herewith two of such letters appearing in the Capital Journal under dates of May 31 and June 5 respectively. There can be no doubt that some arrangement should be made for the perpetuation of Salem's oldest cemetery but the insinuations that have been made indicate that the general public does not fully comprehend the original intention and they further cast unwarranted reflections against an organization whose principles have always stood for good government and honest living. In the beginning, about ninety years ago, there was a small community which has now grown to what we call Salem. In those days many of the pioneers had just crossed the plains, suffering many hardships en route, and who had buried their loved ones who had died on the trip in unmarked graves along the trail. After settling at their new home they developed a distinct and urgent need for a place of burial which could be dedicated to the dead and be a safe haven where their loved ones could be placed and visited whenever they wished. Through the efforts of the pioneer members of the Odd Fellows Lodge a burial place was so developed with funds of their lodge together with contributions from their public spirited members. This cemetery comprising about thirty acres was then known as the Salem Rural Cemetery and it was located about two miles from the populated area. It was planned to meet the need of the day, with no thought or provision for "Perpetual Care," as those provisions were destined to be introduced to meet new needs of cemeteries many years later. Those pioneers were an industrious people who did not ask or expect others to do their work for them but they considered it a privilege to be able to maintain and care for the final resting place of their loved ones, an example well worthy of emulation. This was the principle thought, purpose and intent of the original organizers and users. In those days the cemetery maintenance was simple, they set aside one day each year and the community with horses, wagons, picnic lunches and the children would go to the cemetery and spend the day in cleaning and beautifying the graves of relatives and friends and the cemetery in general. They equipped themselves for hauling the debris from the cemetery leaving it in a clean and orderly condition. The actual cost in those days was nothing as they did the work themselves. Today the attitude of many people toward cemeteries has changed considerably. In the Odd Fellows Cemetery it is found to be the common practice, although some are considerate, to clean their graves in a slovenly manner, throwing the debris on adjacent graves or, at best, in the alleys and roadways which must either be removed by someone else or left to decay and rot. Many graves in the Odd Fellows Cemetery are no longer visited by anyone as they too have long since passed away.

At the beginning all roadways and alleys approximating 11 miles were immediately dedicated to the public. All through the past ninety years the Odd Fellows Lodge of Salem, without assistance from any other source, has endeavored to maintain these many miles of roadways and alleys. But nature's constant growth together with the encroachments caused by visitors create an increasing and never ending problem.

As time passed by that small community grew and developed until it had enlarged into a City and the cemetery was no longer a rural one but a part of that City, and was eventually within the City limits. During those growing years more and more people lived in the community and consequently more and more people passed away and the Odd Fellows Cemetery continued to serve them until now it has little unoccupied property and consequently fewer and fewer demands for burials. As a result the revenues of the Cemetery have been reduced to practically nothing.

In later years, the demands of the people, living in an ever changing world the same then as today, required new needs of cemeteries and the "Perpetual Idea" was introduced and came into being and is naturally being welcomed by the public of today. We cast no reflections against any cemetery as we feel that they are all rendering a fine service to the public with the various adopted policies of operation but it would be interesting if we could just know now how well this new idea will have proven to be one hundred years from now.

Records show that all lots in the Odd Fellows Cemetery, comprising sixteen grave spaces, were sold by the Lodge at an average price of \$20.00 per lot or \$125 per grave. This project had been developed as a public spirited one with no thought of profit or remuneration for services rendered for anyone and the selling price of the property was determined to cover actual costs of that time. The records further show that by the year 1900 the Lodge had very little of its own property left for sale. Yet we have many in our community, many of whom own no property in the cemetery, who have dared to say, causing others to believe, that the Odd Fellows should keep their cemetery and consequently recent cemeteries that are operated on the endowed plan but whose property sells from \$37.50 to \$100.00 or more per grave.

For a good many years the Odd Fellows Lodge of Salem has returned back to the Cemetery all funds received from it and in addition have made many appropriations from their own funds for cemetery use. It is very difficult to say the least to our organization which has fostered the cemetery for the public welfare for nearly a century, at no additional cost to the property owners and no contributions from any other source, to receive only condemnation and criticism and to have our good name all but blasphemed as our reward.

Is there any other organization which has done as much for the Salem community and received so little credit?

We want it distinctly understood that there is no unfilled obligation on the part of the Odd Fellows Lodge to the community of Salem to continue to assume the maintaining of that rural cemetery originated ninety years ago by the public spirited men who started it and which was quite adequate to meet the needs of their time. But we do feel that there is a distinct obligation by the descendants of those pioneers and the community at large to the Odd Fellows Lodge for the services that they have rendered to this community for those past ninety years.

The above letter prepared, published and space paid for by CHEMEXETA LODGE NO. 1 INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS Corner Court and High Streets, Salem, Oregon.

Suits Expected On Diversion Of Materials

By the Associated Press
WASHINGTON, June 15—Watch for the justice department to file a flood of suits charging diversion of critical materials from government-approved housing projects.

WASHINGTON—Those who read through the lines here say there's good proof that Russia's peace-time army will be well below its war-time strength.

WASHINGTON—Russia's new ambassador, Nikolai V. Novikov, reportedly heard some plain talk about Soviet-U.S. relations when he paid a formal call on Chairman Connally (D-Tex.) of the senate foreign relations committee, who is said to have told Novikov that international cooperation isn't a one-way ride.

WASHINGTON—The U.S. may decide shortly to accept unconditionally an invitation to the inter-American foreign ministers' conference. Brazil is likely to schedule the conference soon for late summer.

RIO DE JANEIRO—Brazilian youths will be required to take one year of military training under the new constitution which probably will be promulgated early in September.

COPENHAGEN—Danish medical factories, with one exception, have contracted to establish a giant factory to produce nothing but penicillin.

CANBERRA—The U.S. forces are paying up to \$5500 a year to civilian technicians recruited in Australia for work in the Philippines. Motor mechanics get about three times what they would in Australia.

Employees Hear Of Progress

Developments in Oregon public employees' organization which received new impetus at the recent Astoria convention of the state federation of labor were explained to State Employees Local No. 44 last night at a dinner meeting in Hollywood Lions Den. Carl Green, Oregon City, president of Oregon State Council of Public Employees, was main speaker.

Joseph L. Prange, president of the local, conducted the session which also included remarks by R. H. Sylvester, Portland, assistant business representative of the Building Service Employees.

Silverton Vacation Bible School Enrolls 71 Pupils First Week

SILVERTON—Minnie Johnson directed the First Christian church vacation Bible school this week and next week Alice Loron will take over. Seventy-one are enrolled.

Mrs. George Jaeschke is directing art and hand work, the Rev. Russell Myers, boys' handwork; Mrs. Myers, recreation and study for the older group. Other teachers are Mrs. James H. Rankin, Mrs. Earl Johnson, Mrs. C. B. Calkins, Mrs. Guss Herr, Mrs. Albert Flemming, Mrs. Harry Vetter, Mrs. Olaf Paulson, Mrs. John Middlemiss and Miss Jean Jarnuggan.

Farm, Dairy, Horse Auction Dates Are Set

SCIO—J. W. Nichols and Carl R. Farmer, farmers north of Scio, are discontinuing dairying and are holding a dairy auction sale Monday, June 17, three miles north of here, with 18 cows and full dairy equipment.

Raymond McDonald, known as a horseman and stockman, is holding his annual sale of saddle horses a half mile east on Sunday, June 16.

John and Charley Rockwell have sold their farm nine miles southeast of Scio to Lee Gaines, now of Albany, whose son Roscoe will use the place for stock raising. Rockwell Brothers are holding their general farm auction sale Sunday, June 16.

Monmouth Enrolls 318 For Summer Session

MONMOUTH—Registration at Oregon College of Education now totals 318 and 65 are men. These are all students scheduled for a full half-session of summer work. The two-week special "workshop" course which last year was held at opening of the first half of the summer term will be held at start of second half this year.

Housing units obtained from federal authority are now partially erected west of Todd hall.

Pre-War Service on Watch Repairing

Diamond Setting
Jewelry Manufacturing
The Jewel Box
DIAMONDS - WATCHES
Store Hours: 9.30 to 6 P.M.

Stayton Property Changes Hands in Late Transactions

STAYTON—Real estate transfers this week include purchase of the Will Gates place by the Montell Roundtrees who came here from Cottage Grove.

Otis Bennett bought the 76-acre Roidt farm three miles southwest of Stayton. E. M. Jensen is the present owner.

Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Kilne have become owners of the 36-acre fully equipped farm of George Nelson, located northwest of Stayton.

Sea ducks swallow shellfish whole.

53 Graduated At Monmouth

MONMOUTH—Phyllis Lauderback of Gresham, a student, was commencement soloist June 6 at the Oregon College of Education. Fifty-three were graduated. A trio, Ethel Lawless, Salem, Ethel Pamperin, Portland, and Willowdean Knapp, Portland, all students, furnished additional music.

Dr. C. A. Howard welcomed the guests. Phil Metchan, Portland, represented the state board of higher education. A feature of the day was presentation of the degree of doctor of literature to Marshall Newport Dana, Portland newspaper man.

Thirty-eight graduates received

Belle Passi DAR Elect Officers

MONITOR—Belle Passi chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution held its annual picnic at the DAR cabin at Champego. The newly elected officers officiated for the first time at the business meeting, when plans were made for the coming year. The new officers are: Regent, Grace Engleman, Barlow; vice-regent, Vernita Brown, Hubbard; secretary, Mrs.

Falls City Folk Visit at Coast

FALLS CITY—Mrs. Dick Wyland of Taft visited friends and relatives here this week.

Norman Davis, Mildred Wray and Hazel Petersen were Oceanlake visitors early this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Gardner of Independence visited relatives here Wednesday.

A stork shower was given Tuesday for Mrs. William Powers.

A. G. Douglas, Woodburn; treasurer, Nellie White, route 2, Woodburn; chaplain, Hattie White, route 2, Woodburn; historian, Amy Harding, Salem.

Luncheon was served and the afternoon was spent playing games.

Mrs. Emma Maxwell of the Camp Fire Girls is getting things in order for Camp Kilowans at Teals Creek soon.

Mrs. John Lacy spent the weekend in Portland.

California ranks next to New York as a consumer of floor and wall tile, accounting for about 15 per cent of total consumption in the United States.

Genuine Holland Bulbs
We purchased a large shipment and are ready to book orders. Ask for price list. Introductory offer: 12 Giant Darwin Tulips top size in 6 varieties labeled \$1.50, assorted \$1.40 prepaid.
Beaverton Bulb Gardens
Beaverton, Ore.

PENNEY'S

J. C. PENNEY CO., INC.
SALEM, ORE.

CLEARANCE

SECOND FLOOR

NOW IN PROGRESS!

Bargain Feature!
REDUCTION ON
Girls' Skirts
2.00

Ideal skirts to wear with cool summer blouses. Plenty of pleats, nicely made. Light and dark colors. Values you can't afford to pass up.

SECOND FLOOR

Close-Out Feature on
Women's Millinery
1.98
AND
2.98

Straws and felt hats in all assorted styles and colors. Buy another hat to carry you through the rest of the summer.

SECOND FLOOR

Value Repriced!
Women's Slack Suits
4.98

Five only!! Women's slack suits in short or long jacket style. Light blue and navy blue poplin and strutter cloth fabric. Reduced to clear.

SECOND FLOOR

REDUCED
Women's Blouses
NOW ONLY
1.98

Assortment of broken sizes and slightly soiled blouses. White and colors. Values you can't afford to pass up.

SECOND FLOOR

Drastic Markdown!
ON
Girls' Suits
6.88

Mark downs on suits to save you plenty. Cute bolero, tailored and casual styles. Pastel colored. Ideal for summer wear.

SECOND FLOOR

LOOK
Infants' High Chair, Repriced at 7.00

Light stain hardwood high chair with adjustable foot rest and removable tray. Playful animal designs. Standard size. Special priced.

Second Floor

PRICED TO CLEAR

Few Only!
Girls' White Jumpers
1.98

Cute white jumpers for little girls. Fine quality, washable fabric with clever colorful trim. Nicely made. Repriced for a saving to you.

SECOND FLOOR

Markdown Value on
Women's Dresses
AT ONLY
5.88

Better dresses marked down to clear out at this low price. Assorted styles and colors in all the fabrics to wear now and early fall. Repriced to clear.

SECOND FLOOR

Big Reductions on
Women's Skirts
2.98

Assortment of plaid and solid color skirts. Some with pleats or gores. Some wools or rayon and cottons. You're sure to find your choice in skirts.

SECOND FLOOR

REDUCED
Special Feature of
Women's Slacks
REDUCED TO
5.00

Rayon or wool slacks. Comfortably styled in practical colors. Special priced to save you plenty on your play slacks. Check this item for values.

SECOND FLOOR

Mark - Down
Two Groups
Women's Suits
12.88 AND **17.88**

Smooth fitting dressmaker suits and smart tailored suits, all reduced to clear for incoming merchandise. Assortment of styles to wear now or early fall. Priced really low.

Second Floor

Close Out - - - -
Two Groups of
Women's Coats
12.88 AND **17.88**

Bright pastel colored coats and dark blue, brown and black shorty coats and classic styled long coats, all repriced to save you plenty. Fabrics and colors to wear now and early fall.

Second Floor

Third Group of Women's
Better Coats Reduced

On groups of women's better coats drastically reduced to make way for early fall merchandise. Dark and pastel shades. Fitted styles in long and short lengths. Fine twills and gabardines.

25.88

Second Floor

Women's - Special Group of
BETTER SUITS REDUCED

Newest styled belted cuffs, cardigans. Necklines in firm finished gabardine and woolen fabrics. Nice rayon linings. Assortment of colors to choose from.

25.88

Second Floor