

The Oregon Statesman

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

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher Member of the Associated Press

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Safeguard Civil Service

Secretary of State Farrell has submitted amendments to SB 266 now in the hands of a house committee which should be carefully considered because they appear to constrict seriously the operation of the state civil service act.

The argument for the amendments is that the elected officials are responsible to the people and so should have the final say on classification and compensation of their employees.

It is true that the civil service commission is appointed by the governor but both the traditions of civil service and the standards of the act would prevent a governor from using it to hamstring offices of other elected officials.

At least before the amendments are adopted the organizations and friends who have sponsored the civil service act in Oregon should be heard.

Rehabilitation of Blind

The state blind trades school has been a frequent source of contention in the past, so it is not surprising that again it becomes an issue in the legislature.

There is no question, we feel, of the sincerity of purpose on the part of Cyril Botts and others who sponsor the new legislation. They are disturbed because of the limited reach of the trades school and of the failure of the present commission to function broadly in the field of prevention and rehabilitation.

A new executive has been hired by the commission, so it may be well to give him an opportunity to organize a program, and at the same time to provide him sufficient money to work with.

There is plenty of authority in the present law. What is needed are proper organization and financial support. If these are forthcoming we believe the group of critics will be well satisfied.

Heroes of Peace

Wars ending stopped the stories of heroism in combat. Back in the news however are stories of the coast guard, that organization designed to save life, whose members brave storm and sea in line of duty.

The rescue of 31 men of the crew of a collier thrown on the rocks near Cape Elizabeth, Maine was a thrilling one, and the accompanying pictures of hauling men in from the broken ship by breeches' buoy heightened the narrative.

About the same time the coast guard at Coos Bay was put to severe test in the storm that broke over that section of the coast. One fishing boat floundered near the mouth of the bay and was smashed against the jetty.

The dramatic try by five coast guardsmen to rescue the two men seen clinging to the wreckage after the boat capsized was told today.

Facing death in their heroic dash, the quintet braved the huge breakers that had capsized the Alice M. and were within 500 yards of the wreck before the second of the two visible men went down. The rescue boat took four bad breakers in its unsuccessful rescue race.

The coast guard is like a crew of firemen. Members wait days on end and "nothing happens." But when a distress signal comes they pour everything they have of physical strength and moral courage to carry out their mission of rescue. They are truly heroes of peacetime.

Financing Airports

Municipal airports threaten to become a major headache in many towns and cities. Developed by the government primarily for war purposes, in many cases, they are being thrown back to local control, but communities see the expense of upkeep and operation is beyond their capacity.

Countering this is the representation of the airlines that they are still an infant industry themselves, requiring some nursing to enable them to meet demands for public service.

There are good arguments on both sides of the proposition. The point is that a municipal airport of size and quality to meet demands of modern commercial planes is a continuing source of expense, and in many instances is in the luxury class.

Lead is now quoted at 15c a pound, the highest in many, many years, and copper at 21 1/2c. Other metals move in sympathy though no recent change is reported in steel prices.

Paul Mallon's BEHIND THE NEWS

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WASHINGTON, March 6. — The Moscow conference of foreign ministers opening Monday is expected to be a routine. After six weeks of torrent haranguing, the big four agree on nothing and designate their deputies to determine what form nothing shall take.

Paul Mallon will concern only this is what officiate think. In all other particulars, the meeting approximates one which might be held in an icehouse in Antarctica before the spring thaw.

The newspaper predicament was equally revealing. The press arrangers here had been told repeatedly that after Moscow swept out its two hotels, and gave one of its colossal structures to the press, it could not house many.

We got only 15 to 20 according to late accounts, later changed by Ambassador Smith to exactly 36. The accounts are not trustworthy because Moscow was supposed to furnish visas for a press delegation of surely 20 and told us so, but when some of the men applied for their visas at the Russian embassy, nothing had been heard of the matter.

Correspondent Force Pinched And mind you the press delegation did not only include reporters but one still cameraman who was to take all pictures as a pool man for all the outside world, a movie man who could not get along without an accompanying engineer although his product was simply to be pooled, and two radio men to supplement some of the radio representatives now there.

Never in all history of major international conferring has there been such a conference. The Russians would not answer inquiries. Promised visas would not show up as promised, needed delegates and good reporters alike were kept out. To a large extent, we went into the meeting flying blind on one motor.

While the Russians do not intend to start anything, apparently they do not intend to let anything develop which would settle world affairs. Thus revolutionary Moscow has become the defender of the status quo, if not the obstructionist who expects to take the world over in 18 months.

Income Tax ABCs for 1947

YOU NEED NOT REPORT—

A. Social Security benefits, accident or health insurance payments, proceeds of life insurance policy paid on death of holder.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



Public Records

CIRCUIT COURT E. Aldrich vs Lelia V. Sharp; Answer filed by defendant.

Probate Court Clarence M. Monner estate; Order appointment, Frank Monner administrator.

Justice Court Loyal G. Phillips, route 6, box 118, axle overload, fined \$10 and costs.

Municipal Court Donald L. Beck, 1317 N. Commercial st., failure to stop, posted \$2.50 bail.

Justice Court Victor Koehne, charged with obtaining money by false pretenses, waived preliminary examination, held to answer.

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Training Started For Cub Leaders

Stress will be given the cub scout achievement program at the second meeting of a cub leaders' training program at Pringle park scout hut next Thursday night.

Bank Debits in Valley Tabulated Bank debits — the dollar value of checks drawn against individual bank deposits — of eight banks in the lower Willamette valley, including Salem and McMinnville, totaled \$61,349,073 in December, 1946, a drop of 9.2 per cent from November and an increase of 20.7 per cent over December, 1945.

These figures were released in Oregon Business Review this week. The Review showed that debits in 10 upper Willamette valley banks, including Albany and Corvallis, last December amounted to \$70,254,985. This marks an increase of 3 per cent over November, 1946, and an increase of 31 per cent over December, 1945.

4-H Membership for County Near 2,000, Lions Club Told

The Salem Lions club Thursday underscored its 4-H support program with a luncheon meeting in the Marion hotel devoted to observing National 4-H Club week.

A talk stressing the importance of adult leadership in guiding farm youth into useful farm and home occupations and praising the 4-H work carried out by Marion county was delivered by Walter Leth, Independence farmer and Polk county agent for the past 11 years.

With praise for James Bishop, Lion chairman at the observance and Marion county's 4-H director, Leth noted that this county's 4-H membership is nearing the 2,000 mark for the first time and that during last year 116 of 176 Marion county clubs had 100 per cent records for completing all projects undertaken.

Leth emphasized the citizenship-building aspects of 4-H work as well as the farm and home training and the production of income for the young farmers in connection with their club work. He said the nearly 23,000 youths in Oregon 4-H last year averaged an income of \$120 from their club-inspired work.

Other speakers included Donna Wiederkehr, route 1, Jefferson, state 4-H winner in girls' records, who praised the diversity of 4-H projects and listed her own 25 projects this year, ranging from entomology and frozen foods to home-making and child care.

Junior Miller, Gervais farmer who as a 4-H member won the Patterson leadership trophy in 1943, expressed his thanks for the successful start in farming which 4-H had given him.

Frank N. Hutchings filed a suit for divorce from Alice Hutchings in Marion county circuit court Thursday, charging desertion, after waiting nearly 42 years for the return of his wife.

Hutchings states in his complaint that his wife deserted him Aug. 20, 1905. The pair were married in Pekin, Ill., Dec. 3, 1890, according to the complaint.

Jobless Pay Drop Shown In February

Unemployment compensation involving Oregon's covered workers dropped 60.4 per cent in February as compared with the same month last year, unemployment compensation commission officials reported Thursday.

Payments from the state's reserve fund reached \$1,754,945 for the first two months of this year, as against \$4,265,132 for the same period in 1946. With benefits to former war workers eliminated, payments for 1946 and 1947 were almost equal, the report said.

For the first time since the end of the war, readjustment allowances to unemployed veterans showed a reduction from the same month a year previous. Payments under the GI bill of rights to those unable to secure suitable work were \$954,635, as compared with \$1,032,329 for February, 1946.

Monthly allowances for self-employed servicemen, however, continued to increase over last year although the \$170,876 reported for February was 12 per cent less than the \$194,000 paid out in January, 1947.

Only 39,484 covered workers have filed 1947 claims, as against 62,696 at the same time last year.

Mill City Man to Join Budget Unit

D. B. Hill, Mill City, was appointed to the county budget committee by County Judge Grant Murphy Thursday. Hill, cashier of the Mill City bank, will succeed M. G. Gunderson, Silverton, whose third year will expire June 30, 1947.

Other members are John Ramage, Woodburn, and Leo N. Childs, Salem, with two and one years to serve, respectively.

Desertion Charge After 42 Years

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The new aluminum slat is being used exclusively in Salem aluminum Venetian blinds. Let us show you this new slat material. You will be pleased with its quality and price.

Large stock of window shade materials just received. We make them up to order. Two-day service. Call us for Weather Stripping Reinholdt & Lewis VENETIAN BLINDS 560 South 21st Street Phone 3148

PIGGLY WIGGLY Springtime FOOD BUYS. Includes lists of products like Clorox Bleach, Ritz Crackers, Cereal, Clam Chowder, and various meats and produce with prices.

Income Tax ABCs for 1947. YOU NEED NOT REPORT— A. Social Security benefits... B. Pensions and other money received from the government... C. Property received as a gift, bequest or inheritance.