

Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 25, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher
Member of the Associated Press

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Measure of State Industrial Progress

Thanks to the statistical records made available by the unemployment compensation commission it is possible to obtain quite an accurate picture of wage and employment conditions in Oregon. The department maintains an active statistical division which works over the comprehensive data received by its various offices and comes up with worthwhile information in usable and understandable form.

Thus we find in a recent release that the total of wages and salaries distributed in Oregon during the first half year was at latest report \$398,592,646. This is an increase of 27 per cent over the corresponding period a year ago. More persons have been employed and individuals have received substantial wage increases. For the second quarter the 295,000 covered workers received an average monthly wage of \$233.

These figures relate to workers in covered employment, such as factories, stores, commercial establishments. Not covered are farm workers, domestic and government employes, and those in business establishments employing fewer than four persons. The total civilian labor force is estimated at 602,500, well over the peak of wartime. The heavy unemployment anticipated with the closing down of shipyards and return of men and women from military service has not materialized.

The UCC statistics are reported to bear out the estimates of the census bureau which show a population of 1,530,000 for Oregon, compared with 1,088,000 in 1940. The growth in labor force has been 41 per cent and the gain in number employed 50 per cent. September reports indicate a continued expansion in employment and labor force, probably due to continued influx of workers for the harvesting of crops.

These statistics ought to gratify ardent boosters of state development. They show we have taken in stride the ending of the war and demobilization, that huge sums are being distributed among our labor population, and that the growth incentive for the state has not yet been blunted.

Wage Auction

Labor long fought being considered a "commodity." It contended for a living wage, and that workers should not be considered in the same category as raw materials and plant expenses. Labor has strenuously objected to purchase of labor by the "shopping" process in which wages would be beaten down and down.

In these days of scarcity of workers and of tight organization of labor we have the situation reversed. Labor sort of auctions itself. If one union gets a wage increase of 10c an hour the next demands an increase of 15c. When John L. Lewis gets a boost of 20c an hour he sets a pattern which becomes the virtual minimum for other negotiations in the period.

Lately the non-operating railroad brotherhoods got a wage raise of 15c an hour. The operating brotherhoods however now ask for a 30 per cent increase which would give more than 30c an hour increase. At each negotiation the jack-screw is given one or more twists.

With high living costs justice is seen in granting wage increases. The trouble is that many become unbalancing, setting off fresh reactions of wage and price increases elsewhere. And the jack screw will not work in reverse without serious friction.

The pyramiding is creating a condition of instability which is itself unsettling. Investors lack confidence, and people appear to invite a recession of some consequence that they may buy goods cheaper. Thus we build up our own depressions.

Tax Question

The state grange is out with a neat pamphlet which shows by specific cases how much additional tax the farmers will have to bear if the sales tax passes. So what? Of course they will have to pay more money, and why shouldn't they? Government costs more money than it did and we keep on demanding more government. How fair would a tax be that lightened the load on farmers in these days of piping prosperity for producers of grain and meat?

All this is the wrong approach to the question of whether to have a sales tax or not. The major questions are: do we need additional revenue, and is this sales tax the best and fairest way to get it? But how many people will vote October 7th except on the basis of how it hits their own pocketbooks?

Visit of Senator Taft

The journey of Senator Robert A. Taft through the west draws far more public attention than the pilgrimage of Governor Dewey. It even draws labor pickets, and no one thought of picketing Dewey's hotel. Taft is attempting to discuss current issues from the standpoint of republican party policy. He is frank and his ideas inevitably provoke controversy because they deal with controversial subjects.

Oregon will have a chance to see and hear the Ohio senator this week when he speaks at the state republican club convention in Clatsop county on Friday and at Corvallis on Saturday. His speeches need to be considered not merely in the light of his probable personal candidacy but also as outlining party policy from the conservative standpoint.

Crisis in United Nations

The admission of Georges Bidault, French foreign minister and delegate to the United Nations general assembly that he deems it futile "to conceal the magnitude and seriousness of the crisis" confronting the United Nations due to the radical differences that have arisen between the United States and Russia. He has endeavored to play the role of "honest broker" between the two countries, but confesses that "one does not see how they can be reconciled." On the list of issues however he put France quite consistently behind the United States.

The crisis is one for the United Nations as a body and for the whole postwar world. But its failure need not of itself precipitate war. The greatest deterrent to war is knowledge of its direful consequences. Statesmen know that everyone loses if war comes.

Another ex-cabinet officer has written a book, this time Henry "The Morgue" Morgenthau, Roosevelt's secretary of the treasury. He spills more dirt, not about his chief, whom he visited in his bath, but about his colleagues in the government. The picture he gives of politics and relief and of Henry Wallace's extravagances with government money give warrant to a lot of the republican criticism which was denounced by loyal new dealers as propaganda reactionaries.

Oregon ranks second, next only to New York, in the quantity of its pack of green beans. These are now called snap beans. Grandmother called them string beans, but that was before some plant expert "pulled the string." Oregon's yield averages 7.9 tons per acre, three times the national average, and Marion county is the prime bean-growing county of the state. Some one might figure out how many banqueters are served with Oregon-grown beans.

The U of O Emerald reports that incoming freshmen seem to have more "Welpfoot spirit" than for some years. It will test its test when the varsity team takes a few defeats.



(Continued from page 1)

Italy performed the miracle of establishing a new religion which was alive in the place of an old religion which was already dead. It is possible that the Negro immigrants who have found Christianity in America may perform the greater miracle of raising the dead to life. With their childlike spiritual intuition and their genius for giving spontaneous aesthetic expression to emotional religious experience, they may perhaps be capable of kindling the cold grey ashes of Christianity which have been transmitted to them by us until, in their hearts, the divine fire glows again. It is thus perhaps, if at all, that Christianity may conceivably become the living faith of a dying civilization for the second time. If this miracle were indeed to be performed by an American Negro Church, that would be the most dynamic response to the challenge of social penalization that had yet been made by man.

There is that chance, indeed, and Father Divine has certainly attracted a following among people of both races. But there is also the chance that with education, with steady acquisition of common American patterns of life and thought the negro race may lose the spontaneity which has made it original in our society. Its religious fervor may ooze away as has that of many moderns. The evident conflict between practice and precept in the matter of the brotherhood of man would surely give it an impetus in that direction.

If Toynbee would extend his suggestion to include late converts in other lands, his prophecy may come true, for they in their zeal often put to shame those who at home have sent out the missionaries.

Oregon Vets' Readjustment Record Good

Oregon's returned veterans have shown a better postwar readjustment record in the past three years than have veterans in many other states, the state unemployment compensation commission reported Saturday.

The proportion who have exhausted benefit rights within the first two years after V-J day is among the lowest in the nation. The number of veterans seeking aid because of small earnings or because of self-employment is much below the nation's average, the commission said.

Probably 100,000 returned veterans are working — either for themselves or others — best obtainable figures indicated. Another 15,000 are or will be in schools this winter, while an additional 15,000 are in on-the-job training. Although the proportion of those gainfully employed is higher than anticipated at the end of the year, employment officers report veterans' job referrals still running at the top level of about 600 per month.

So far, the commission's records show, only about 2.2 per cent of Oregon's veteran claimants have drawn their entire allowances compared with an average for the nation of 6.3 per cent.

This state's percentage of benefits exhaustions is 1.2 per cent or less than any other state except Idaho, Utah and Wyoming. In some southern states as high as one-eighth of the unemployed veterans have drawn their entire allowances, while in Mississippi nearly half of the 47,964 self-employed can receive no further monthly payments.

MOTHERS GO HOME

Taking home baby daughters from Salem General hospital Saturday were Mrs. Jack Danielson, Newport, and Mrs. Chester Weber, Salem route 8. Mrs. Elmer Overgaard, Salem route 4, was dismissed with her baby son.

Coming to a Boil



Council to Talk Of Changes in Street Names

A lone parking meter bid, recommended changes in street names and bus and taxi matters will occupy the Salem council at its regular meeting Monday at 8 p. m. in city hall.

The Park-o-Meter company of Oklahoma City, which supplied the 300 automatic meters most recently installed here, submitted the only bid on the project of replacing approximately 1,000 manual meters which the council at its last meeting voted not to retain beyond the six-months trial period. Both motorists and traffic officers have expressed general preference for the automatic type.

A large number of proposed changes in street names, to eliminate confusion and duplication, have been recommended to the council by the city planning and zoning commission, which received them from an unofficial group of city, county, postal and utility officials. The aldermen are expected to discuss the proposals preliminary to future action.

Of four ordinance bills up for final reading, action on one granting Oregon Motor Stages a 10-year franchise for city buses and another raising from 75 cents to \$1 maximum taxi fare from State street to north or south city limits is expected to be deferred for further study of the measures by city officials.

The other bills would make unlawful the burning of any refuse creating a bad odor and would accept a deed from Otto Busch to property extending Nebraska avenue one block east.

OSC Enrollment To Near 8,000

CORVALLIS, Sept. 20 — (AP) — Student registration at Oregon State college reached 7,105 today at the end of Freshman week and college officials said graduate students and late comers would

Chin-Uppers Receive Aid in Building Drive

Persons from a large number of Oregon communities are serving on committees, announced Saturday, assisting in the building fund drive by the Chin-Up Club of Oregon. A feature of the drive is the selling of "brick" tags, proceeds from which will go into construction of a workshop for physically handicapped persons.

Public Records

MUNICIPAL COURT
Robert H. Bergstrom, Portland, violation of noise ordinance, posted \$5 bail.
James A. Stillwell, Sheridan, violation of basic rule, posted \$7.50 bail.
Richard W. Kluser, Portland, violation of basic rule and failure to stop, posted total of \$27.50 bail.
James Porter, Los Angeles, violation of basic rule, posted \$7.50 bail.
Zola M. Gilmour, Jefferson, violation of basic rule, posted \$5 bail.
Donald J. Kenaghy, 851 Rosemont st., West Salem, no operator's license, posted \$2.50 bail.
Fred Olson, 351 1/2 N. Cottage st., charged with driving with defective brakes, pleaded innocent, released on \$10 bail and cited to appear in municipal court October 3 at 1:30 p. m.
Tony Bacis, Lebanon, violation of basic rule, posted \$10 bail.

DISTRICT COURT

Normal William Walkup, Albany, charged with driving while intoxicated, 30-day jail sentence suspended on payment of \$250 fine and costs; placed on one year's probation.
Ernest Charles Cole, Silverton, sentenced to 30 days in county jail on charge of carrying a concealed weapon following dismissal of former charge of illegal possession of firearms.

PROBATE COURT

Samuel Kauffman estate: Final order.

CIRCUIT COURT

Sylvia I. Grosser vs. Bernard G. Grosser: Default order entered.
Rachel A. Wied, administratrix of Frank F. Wied estate, vs. Jim Wied and Jane Doe Wied: Defendants file answer admitting and denying.

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS

Wilbur L. Hamshire, 23 truck driver, 3435 Silverton rd., and Mary Virginia Schwarz, 24, comp-tometer operator, 650 Thompson ave., both of Salem.
Willard L. Faulhaber, 22 creamery employe, and Frances Duman, 19, waitress, both of Mt. Angel.

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Portland Man Held In Woman's Death

PORTLAND, Sept. 20 — (AP) — Rutherford A. Beer, 41-year-old father of two, was held by police today in connection with the death of an unidentified woman, found beaten in a hotel bed.
Detective M. A. McMeeken said Beer admitted entering the hotel this morning with the woman—a middle-aged, gray-haired woman he saw outside the hotel—and striking her when she reached for his wallet.
McMeeken said Beer then went out, became worried about the woman, returned, and, realizing she was dead, went to call police.

Public Forum on Military Training Set Tuesday Night

A public forum on the subject of the proposed universal military training bill, pending in congress, will be conducted Tuesday at 8 p. m. in Waller hall on the Willamette university campus.

Moderator for the discussion will be Carlton B. Greider, veterans counselor at the Salem office of the state employment service. Taking the stand for UMT will be Rex Kimmell of Salem, assistant state attorney general and immediate past commander of Capital post 9, American Legion. Speaker in opposition to the measure will be John M. Swomley of Washington, D. C., acting director of the National Council Against Conscription, and formerly identified with the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

HOME ENTERED

Dr. George Bishop, 2020 Myrtle ave., reported to city police Saturday that someone had broken into his home sometime Friday night. Investigating officers found the house had been entered by way of a window and was thoroughly prowled, but said that apparently nothing was missing.

Firms in State Increase 50% In Two Years

Marion county is one of the areas making the principal contributions in new firms whose employment is covered by the state unemployment compensation law, according to compensation commission officials. Firms under the law have increased by 4,471 in the past two years to 15,166, about 50 per cent above any period prior to 1945.

In the first year after V-6 day, 2,384 more employers came under the law, while an additional 2,987 joined in the past year. The steady increase of about 200 new employers shows little sign of subsiding, although the 302 increase this July and August was considerably under the 669 gain in the same two months in 1946.

New postwar concerns are believed to have hired about 45,000 of the 310,000 workers currently reported by employers. An analysis of the new firms, soon to be repeated, showed a year ago that each one created an average of 10 new jobs.

Lumber, construction and trade each accounted for about one-fourth of the added employment, with the remaining fourth scattered among other manufacturers, transportation and service groups. Principal gains, other than in Marion, were made in Lane, Douglas, Jackson, Clackamas and Linn counties, in most of which timber concerns are prominent.

NORMA JONES BETTER

Norma Jean Jones, 14, Salem route 4, was in a "much improved" condition in the Salem General hospital Saturday night, attendants reported. She was critically injured in an auto-bicycle accident August 30, and was unconscious for nearly three weeks.

How Deafened People Now Hear Clearly

Science has now made it possible for the deafened to hear faint sounds. It is a hearing device so small that it fits in the hand and enables thousands to enjoy sermons, music and friendly companionship. Accepted by the American Medical Association's Council on Physical Therapy. This device does not require separate battery pack, battery wire, case or garment to bulge or weigh you down. The tone is clear and powerful. So made that you can adjust it yourself to suit your hearing as your hearing changes. The makers of Beltone, Dept. 22, 1450 West 19th St., Chicago 8, Ill., are so proud of their achievement that they will gladly send free descriptive booklet and explain how you may get a full demonstration of this remarkable hearing device in your own home without risking a penny. Write Beltone today.

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