

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Advance Buying of Right-of-Way

We quote this paragraph from the Roseburg News-Review, Editor Stanton's column:

The Oregon Highway Commission could perform a most valuable and needed service to Western Oregon's municipalities if it would determine the routes to be adopted either through or around towns, and buy the right of way, even though construction were left until a later date. At the rate land values are increasing, towns growing and improvements added, the State would save money by buying rights of way in and near populous centers without further delay.

This is a sensible recommendation provided the commission has definitely decided what the new or altered location will be. If not, and a subsequent change is made, it might find itself owning strips of land quite worthless for its purposes.

The real reason why the highway department doesn't do more advance buying of right-of-way is lack of funds. Pressed as it is for money for construction it cannot tie up funds in highway locations that are not scheduled for improvement.

However the commission does more preliminary buying than is generally announced. It bought up the Sunset highway connection between Portland and Banks several years before work started. Right-of-way on the Willsonville cutoff was purchased quite some time ago though the contract for construction from Tigard toward the river was let only a few months ago.

As far as land values go it is true they have been rising for the past dozen years, but they may recede as they have often in the past. The great advantage in forward buying for the highway department is that then they do not find new improvements on lands they want, which run up the cost. To illustrate, planning authorities here have agreed that Fairgrounds road should be pushed on to join Broadway but a couple of years ago a concrete structure was built right at the head of Fairgrounds road. Before that the cost of land acquisition would have been small; now it would be so large as to delay or make impossible the connection.

We hope the highway department makes up its mind regarding the location for a second bridge across the Willamette here and proceeds to acquire right-of-way. Otherwise it may run into heavy costs later on.

The two factors which prevent adoption of the policy Editor Stanton recommends still remain valid: Lack of funds and danger of route changes.

## Soviet Armenians

Reports from Iran this month indicate that the communist propaganda campaign designed to draw the world's widely dispersed Armenians into Soviet Armenia is getting results. An estimated 100,000 Armenians migrated from the Near and Middle Eastern countries to Russia since the end of World War II, and their story is a parallel to the history of the Jews.

Descendants of Haik, son of Noah, the Armenians of antiquity were pastoral people inhabiting the land of Mt. Ararat and the valleys of the Tigris and the Euphrates. They were often under foreign rule; Assyrian despots were followed by Alexander the Great and then Genghis Khan, and in more modern times their country was split between Russia, Persia and Turkey. Armenia was one of the first Christian states and the people have remained Gregorian Christians despite strong coercion by Moslems. The Turkish massacres from 1895 to 1915 were intended to exterminate the whole infidel race and the Armenians were scattered to the ends of the earth.

As a race they have, of necessity, developed a strong merchant class and many Armenians are bankers and traders and their capacity for education has earned them high places in many lands. But, like the Jews, their dream is a racial homeland and their spirit, nationalistic.

The Soviet Union, ever all things to all people, has been quick to capitalize on the yearnings of minority groups. Birobidzhan on the river Amur was founded 14 years ago as the Soviet Jewish autonomous region. Communists stimulated the nationalistic spirit as long as it served their purpose. Jewish settlers arrived by the thousands to set up a nation and were granted self-government, in the Soviet sense, their own schools and newspapers, industrial cooperatives and collective farms.

The existing Soviet Republic of Armenia is the only ethnic nucleus Armenians can now claim and communists are plugging the idea of building that "republic" into a powerful state that will one day dominate the Middle East. By appealing to long latent and powerless nationalism, the Russians are persuading many Armenians, who resent being a minority, to become Soviet citizens.

Leigh White in Iran, writing for the Chicago Daily News foreign service, has a reason: "The Armenians, like the Jews, constitute a potential fifth column in the Middle East of considerable importance to an expanding totalitarian power."

For this service, suitable "processing" is called for and, since it might not be expedient for Russia to commandeer in the already sensitive Middle East, voluntary immigration to jerry-built Soviet "homelands" seems to be the tactic. Jews and Armenians unfitted to act as Soviet agents will be useful in other ways. As one pro-communist writer in the Soviet Russia Today magazine explained (about Birobidzhan), "Soviet people are eager to go where their country needs them most."

## Suit Against Union Members

Five shipping concerns are suing 620 CIO longshoremen and their wives, accusing the workers of slowdowns which caused the plaintiffs heavy losses. It is another item in the list of labor troubles at Coos Bay which have plagued shippers for a long time past, although the immediate basis of the suit is of recent origin. The shipping interests blame the longshoremen with stalling on the job and neglecting to report for work.

It has been a long time since a suit like that was filed. A good many years ago the hatters of Danbury won and collected heavy damages from union members who struck their plants. Under the Clayton amendment however unions obtained general immunity from such actions. Whether late changes in laws will validate a suit like this is a matter the courts will have to decide.

There ought to be some penalty though against damaging, conspiracy on the part of union members. The suit itself may serve as a warning.

Looks like a busy week. Cherryland Festival starts Thursday. So does the big trapshoot that draws hundreds of visitors from all parts of the west. The Salem Senators are playing at home for two weeks. The Browning carnival is showing at Marion square. Pick your own entertainment, folks.

Reading about the weather in Philadelphia this week no one needs to tell us what the governor of North Carolina said to the governor of South Carolina when they met in the lobby of the Bellevue-Stratford.

"Sips for Supper" notes that June Drake of Silverton is making progress in his campaign to take "creek" out of Silver Falls state park. At this season of the year the weather is helping him.

## GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"What can I do now, Mom?"

## State Control Board Receives Work Operations Resolutions; Approves Stove Purchases

Oregon state board of control meeting here Tuesday received five resolutions dealing with working operations of state employees and approved bids for 24 electric ranges to be installed in wards at Oregon State Hospital. Favorable action was also given by the board for the permanent employment of Verna Stocks, graduate of Willamette university, as psychologist at the Hillcrest school for girls.

James T. Marr, Oregon State Employees' federation secretary, presented the five working operations resolutions, which had been approved at a recent state convention of the Oregon State Federation of Labor. Upon presentation, Gov. John H. Hall asked if there was a convenient place to file the resolutions.

"This looks like another request for less working hours and more money for state employees," the governor said.

The resolutions requested:

1. Two paydays per month for state employees.  
2. That charges of maintenance for state workers be based on figures used by the state unemployment compensation commission. This would be a reduction from \$40 to \$25 a month for maintenance of employees at state institutions.

3. That unclassified employees pass aptitude tests established by the state civil service commission.  
4. That vacation leave accumulate at the rate of 1 1/2 days per calendar month and sick leave at 1 1/2 days per month to a total of 90 days in each case and that emergency leave be granted by the employees immediate supervisor.

5. That civil service commission establish employment lists for various localities in the state and to notify employees annually of the sick leave and vacation credits.  
Montag Stove and Furnace Works, Portland, received board approval for \$117 bids each on 24 electric ranges to be installed in Oregon State hospital wards for preparing light foods.

The pair are Chris Kowitz, Jr., 1961 Center st., and Richard Carter, 196 S. 25th st. They were riding with C. R. Carter of San Francisco, father of Richard. The senior Carter was driving.

The car roared off the road at about midnight. As it went over the embankment it turned over in the air, struck the ground on its top and then tumbled three more times before it finally stopped. The three occupants were trapped for a half hour before they were rescued.

No one was hurt except for cuts and bruises. Kowitz and young Carter towed the wrecked car back to Salem Tuesday. The accident occurred about 20 miles north of Weed, which is located 65 miles south of the Oregon-California border. The three men were travelling to San Francisco.

Holding post-mortems on elections is not usually a profitable business; but there will be no gainsaying this conclusion from the Dewey-McKay victories: if you carry the big counties by a fair margin, you're in.

## State Income Tax Installments Due

Second installment on state income taxes involving 102,000 Oregon taxpayers is due Thursday and if not paid by that date will be subject to 5 per cent penalty plus interest.

Installment paying of state income taxes has reached the highest level in the history of the state tax commission, according to Earl Fisher, in charge of the state income tax division. In 1947 less than 50,000 taxpayers paid on the installment basis and in 1944 there were only 25,000 in the installment bracket.

## Learn-to-Swim Classes Draw 314; Rolls Close Today

Registration for the learn-to-swim classes which began Monday under the auspices of the Marion county Red Cross chapter and city recreation officials had increased to 314 Tuesday night, Vernon Gilmore, director, announced.

Registration will be accepted at both Leslie and Glendon pools for the last time today. The course, conducted at both pools Mondays through Fridays, will run to July 23.

Applications for the classes from beginners or those wishing to improve are to be accepted today, he stated.

## Oregon's Assessed Valuation For 1948 Climbs to New High

A record assessed valuation of \$1,131,644,770 for 1948 assessment rolls was reported the state tax commission Tuesday with all of the state's 36 counties, but Marion, reporting.

This county's 1948 assessment value is expected by Assessor Roscoe (Ted) Shelton to be slightly higher than the \$45,730,610 reported in 1947. Shelton said the Marion county figures would probably be ready next week.

The state's total, with all 36 counties in, is expected to top the \$1,180,000,000 mark. The total for the 35 counties reporting is \$1,126,162,857 more than for the same counties last year.

Total for all counties in 1947 came to \$1,057,212,823.

Only one appeal out of six received by the tax commission was granted. The value of the Fullman company was reduced from \$1,500,000 to \$784,950.

Other appellants included the Western Union Telegraph company, Crawfordville Mutual Telephone company, Mt. Hood Railroad company, Sumpter Valley Railroad company and the Southern Pacific company.

Ratios for the 1948 assessment rolls were reduced in 13 counties.

The 1948 and 1947 ratios follow:

| County     | 1948 | 1947 |
|------------|------|------|
| Baker      | 49   | 50   |
| Benton     | 49   | 50   |
| Clackamas  | 48   | 50   |
| Clatsop    | 48   | 50   |
| Columbia   | 48   | 50   |
| Coos       | 60   | 60   |
| Crook      | 60   | 60   |
| Curry      | 60   | 60   |
| Deschutes  | 40   | 40   |
| Douglas    | 40   | 40   |
| Gilliam    | 41   | 41   |
| Grant      | 54   | 54   |
| Harney     | 54   | 54   |
| Hood River | 54   | 54   |
| Jefferson  | 70   | 70   |
| Josephine  | 65   | 65   |
| Klamath    | 44   | 45   |
| Lake       | 41   | 41   |
| Lane       | 48   | 49   |
| Lincoln    | 60   | 63   |
| Linn       | 47   | 47   |
| Mallowa    | 52   | 52   |
| Marion     | 41   | 42   |
| Morrow     | 66   | 66   |
| Multnomah  | 58   | 58   |
| Paulsen    | 77   | 77   |
| Sherman    | 63   | 63   |
| Tillamook  | 47   | 49   |
| Umatilla   | 41   | 41   |
| Union      | 54   | 54   |
| Wallowa    | 50   | 50   |
| Wasco      | 52   | 52   |
| Washington | 46   | 48   |
| Wheeler    | 55   | 55   |
| Yamhill    | 49   | 49   |

## Larceny Wave Continues to Plague Salem

Several minor larcenies, one involving \$174 in currency, were reported by Salem police Tuesday.

Marion Fox, 746 Mill st., reported that a wallet containing \$174 in currency was missing from her home Tuesday morning. It was believed the money was taken during the night, police said, but suspects had not been determined Tuesday night.

Two larcenies from stores were reported in which a camera was taken Monday afternoon from the Capital Drug Store, 405 State st., and a radio from Gevurtz Furniture store, 275 N. Liberty st., possibly on Saturday, police reports said.

R. G. Wendt, 507 N. High st., told police that a sweater, camera, a book of trading stamps and some small change were taken from his car parked in front of his home Monday night. Four hubcaps were stolen from a car owned by Dr. Robert A. Golden, 938 Shipping st., one on Monday and three on July 3 between 9 and 10 p.m. in each instance, police said Tuesday.

Additional items were found to be missing from La Roche's Tavern, 836 S. Commercial st., following the robbery of the tavern over the July 4 weekend. William La Roche, manager, told police that in checking his cooler again he found several packages of T-Bone steaks missing and a whole turkey. La Roche said that he "could get another turkey but the T-Bones are hard to get."

## County Clerk, Recorder Meeting Slated Friday

Marion County Clerk Harlan Judd and Recorder Herman Lanke both were notified Tuesday of the district meeting in Corvallis Friday of the Oregon County Clerks and Recorders' association.

This district is composed of Marion, Benton, Lane, Lincoln and Polk counties.

## WANTED TO RENT

Two-bedroom, unfurnished house for Statesman employee.

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Tuesday. After a hearing Circuit Judge E. M. Page remanded the 17-year-old boy back to the justice court. He has posted \$1,000 bail.

The present Queen of England is a descendant of Robert Bruce and her family home, Glamis Castle, was mentioned by Shakespeare.

## MOVING? RENT A TRUCK

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MEDICAL MIRACLE

Today Your Pharmacist Drops A Few Facts About...

## Diphtheria Antitoxin

On the night of Christmas, 1891, the first child, desperately ill with Diphtheria, was treated with the Antitoxin discovered by Emil Behring, a Berlin army doctor. The result was almost miraculous. After weeks of patient toil, with many discouragements, Behring had given a real Christmas gift to the children of the world — the means to overcome the killing powers of Diphtheria.

WILLETT'S

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