

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Big Wheat Crop Coming Up
The 1949 wheat crop isn't harvested yet, much of the spring sowing hasn't yet been done; but the department of agriculture forecasts another billion bushel crop of winter wheat, the second largest on record. The estimate is for 1,019,686,000 bushels, which is a huge amount of wheat. The record winter wheat crop in 1947 was 1,068,048,000, and the 10-year average 688,606,000. If spring wheat runs to 300,000,000 bushels the total would be slightly under the 1947 record of 1,367,186,000 bushels.

With 800,000,000 ample for our domestic requirements, including seed and feed, a tremendous surplus looms, most of which probably will be shipped abroad either on sale or gift. Already the problem of storage is faced. The congress is moving to authorize the CCC to provide additional warehousing. Elevator companies are increasing capacity. Many farmers are providing storage for themselves. Even then it is expected that a lot of wheat will be piled outside for temporary periods.

Eastern Oregon wheat men fear there still will be 1948 grain in the bins when their new crop comes to market. A great deal of the stored wheat is held by the CCC on a loan agreement with the farmers. Since it is to the farmers' advantage on the basis of present prices to let the government take the wheat (he escapes storage charges that way) no one expects the growers to redeem the wheat by paying off the loans. But the due date is not until May 1st, and growers fear the time from then till harvest will be too short to get the wheat out of country elevators. A great deal of it will go out by water, and the movement depends on availability of shipping.

The government guarantee of 90 per cent of parity encouraged growing of wheat this year. The resulting surplus would be alarming to growers if they did not have government price support. The present law gives a guarantee on a down-sliding scale starting in 1950; but Secretary Brannan proposes a farm program which would do better by the farmer in the way of assuring him a good income.

With big supplies of wheat still on hand and a near-record crop in prospect it looks as though Americans wouldn't starve to death, though without government aid the growers might suffocate in their surplus.

End the Bickering
Chairman T. H. Banfield of the state highway commission gave good counsel when he told Salem to quit its bickering and come to an agreement on plans for handling street and bridge problems here. He cited how Salem had been pressing the commission for a bridge over the Willamette, for relief on streets carrying 89E traffic; but when plans were prepared by the highway department Salem fell apart over recommendations in the plan. And he gave the city council which attended the highway meeting in force a month in which to compose differences and arrive at an understanding for the projected improvements.

We clearly have come to a point where majority interest will have to prevail over minority objections. Picking the Baldock plan apart piecemeal disposes of the whole and nothing is left. The necessities caused by steadily increasing traffic volume force action; and the Baldock plan has the virtue of being a comprehensive one prepared by experienced engineers. If criticisms from interests affected and perhaps hurt, are to prevail then Salem will never get a solution of its traffic problems.

ONE BORN EVERY MINUTE



IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

conduits and water lines run in the channels of the "Q" flooring. For the roof a mix is made of cement, vermiculite and water, which is poured over the "Q" flooring. Vermiculite is a mineral like pumice, exceedingly light, fire-resistant. Its use instead of sand and gravel for aggregate lightens greatly the roof load and gives good insulation. Topping this will be the usual built-up felt and asphalt roofing.

As to costs steel generally is considered higher than concrete. There are some factors however, which are offsetting. One is the time element—no delay for making forms or waiting for concrete to set. Also steel members take up less space than concrete for equal strength.

Hawkins and Roberts who hold the property under a long-term lease are erecting the building which will be occupied by a retail store. P. Belluschi of Portland is the architect. Contractors are Vlesko and Post and the superintendent on the job is Glenn McKay.

Take a look at this job as it goes up, and see how it compares with buildings which employ other materials.

Brannan Declares Farm Plan Would Give Public More

WASHINGTON, April 12 (AP)—Secretary of Agriculture Brannan said Monday that the administration's proposed new farm program "is an attempt to give the public more for its money."

While contending it would cost no more than present legislation, the secretary added: "Even if the dollar investment were higher, which I doubt, it would be worth more to the nation because of the increased protection against surpluses, depression and unemployment."

Brannan spoke on a radio network after an appearance today before the house agriculture committee.

Under the plan, the consumer prices of perishable commodities—the great bulk of farm output—would be allowed to drop to their natural levels. But if they went below a minimum return which the plan assures for farmers, then the government would pay farmers the difference.

THUMB SEVERED BY AX
Edna McCormick, 1085 1/2 S. 13th st., severed her left thumb with an ax at her home Monday night. First aidmen who were called to the scene said the thumb was chopped at the first joint.

Provider of Bail Jailed, Sans Bail

PORTLAND, Ore., April 12 (AP)—Bail bond broker Joseph Levy who has been providing bail-out funds for others for 20 years, was jailed Monday for six hours. It was his first time behind bars.

Municipal Judge J. J. Quillin set the short sentence on a charge of contempt of court so that Levy could neither post bail or appeal the charge. The judge ordered court bailiff Edgar Brewer to clap Levy in the pokies after the bond broker had solicited business just outside the court room.

British Ship to Be Bombed By A-Bomb Rays

PORTSMOUTH, Eng., April 12 (AP)—The cruiser Arethusa has arrived here to be fitted with the instruments she will carry in Britain's first test of atomic bomb rays on a warship.

The cruiser is to be bombed with gamma rays, like those that radiate from an exploding atom bomb, in maneuvers soon off the Sussex coast. No bombs will be used, and there will be no crew or guinea-pig animals aboard. The admiralty has declined to give the exact date of the test.

Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "It was none other that he."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "soot"?
3. Which of these words is misspelled? Madamozelle, Madonna, maelstrom.
4. What does the word "coercive" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with lu that means "exciting laughter; ridiculous"?

Cut in Agency Funds Advised

WASHINGTON, April 12 (AP)—A cut of \$508,750,000 in the amount President Truman asked to run the veterans administration next year was recommended today by the house appropriations committee.

The committee made the slash in sending on to the house for action a \$7,576,886,231 money bill to carry 28 so-called independent agencies through the year starting July 1.

Equipment Slated For Salem CAP

Salem's civil air patrol unit will soon be supplied with a Link trainer, a PT-13 for flight training, parachutes, radio and radar equipment, it was announced Monday night.

The PT-13 is to be stationed permanently at Salem and will be used for aerial search, cadet training, observation flights and training of civil air patrol officers.

Cadets promoted to private first class at Monday's meeting were Jackson Smithson, Gary Hise and Floyd Ranahan.

Hoover Cites Fund Padding By Services

WASHINGTON, April 12 (AP)—Herbert Hoover testified Monday that the army, navy and air force are "padding" their money requests to congress by millions of dollars.

He also accused them of "starling" waste and extravagance. The former president, appearing before the senate armed services committee, cited an air force request for funds to build 910 family homes in Alaska costing \$58,350 each.

He noted the army wanted \$100,000 each to modernize 102 M-26 tanks it doesn't even have. Hoover told the committee that what the department of national defense needs is a good bookkeeping system.

SENIOR PLAY GIVEN

HUBBARD — An outstanding performance was given by the members of the cast in their presentation of "Mountain Justice" by the senior class of North Marion Union high school Friday evening.

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Resolutin' by Solons Costs Money

By Ralph Watson
This is the most resolutin' legislature Oregon ever has had. Not only resolutin' but rugged. At the age of 93, as legislative age is circled, it sat right up in bed Tuesday and resolved to kick the bucket tomorrow.

Thursday afternoon the appropriation bill got into his office. Then there is the \$15,000 job "to study improvement of public school system." That sure sounds like treason with a \$36,250,000 basic school fund on tap and \$23,000,000 more with its nose under the tent. It don't sound like any \$15,000 guy would know where to tackle that job.

Literary Guidepost

By Bob Price
LINCOLN'S SECRETARY. By Helen Nicolay (Longmans, Green, \$5)
John G. Nicolay has lived through decades of history in the shadow of another man. Now, through the work of his daughter, she emerges to historical stature in his own right.

There is no startling historical revelation in the book. It is a story, largely, of the association of two men, Nicolay and Lincoln. But it has a freshness, deriving chiefly from Nicolay's own writings, which are here published for the first time, that make it a "must" for any shelf of Lincolnians.
Helen Nicolay has kept her own recollections and personality in the background. She has told her father's story largely in her own words, as recorded in his letters to his wife-to-be, his journals of life in the White House and his lively correspondence with John Hay in themselves constitute a bright episode of candid comment. "Lincoln's Secretary" is a warmly appealing story. Without realizing it we have been waiting for this book for a long time.

The Safety Valve

WHAT IS THE MATTER?
To the Editor:

We read in the papers and hear on the radio about people wanting shorter hours, longer vacations, salaries raised and pensions for some of the "big bugs" who do not need it.

They want larger and better schools, buses, gymnasiums, cafeterias and "what not."

Please do not bother to say we do not want good schools, for I think everyone does, but a good thing can be overdone.

We hear of the "white collar man" and that he should have more pay but does anyone ever think of the farmers?

I know many who work from 4:30 a. m. until dark and after, with no vacations and then it is all they can do to pay their taxes and some have lost their farms and no doubt but what more will. I have heard a number of our prominent farmers say they don't know what to do, as taxes are so high and it looks like they will be higher.

My husband and I are getting older and if we are lucky enough not to live too long and our land holds out and we can sell some "now and then," as we have been doing, we may get along, but many can't. Then what will become of them? Perhaps they can crowd them in with the poor Navajo Indians and let them all starve together.

Easter Accessory Themes

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