

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sweeps Us, No Fast Shall Awe"
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"Social Graces" for the Irish

George Bernard Shaw was an Irishman but his wife was English. They lived their lives out in England. Whether it was a natural reaction from living with GBS or some fixed notion regarding the Irish in general—something prompted Mrs. Shaw to leave her estate for educating the Irish in the "social graces." The bank serving as trustee under her will recently went to court and had judicial confirmation of its purpose to carry out its trust, which was, in the language of her will, to teach the Irish "self-control, elocution, deportment, the arts of personal contact and social intercourse." The bank will have her \$263,000 to use in the instruction.

Now how will the Irish feel about this? Will they resent this reflection on their social grace and take a shillalah to the first banker's man who comes with a book of etiquette? Or will they see the humor of the situation, take the pamphlet or the lecture and enjoy the time withal?

The Irish long have had the reputation of being apt at personal contact and social intercourse—so apt that those who came to America rose quickly in politics. What would the police force of New York city and Boston be without the Irish? As for "elocution" wherever did you see an Irishman who was tongue-tied? Do they not have the Blarney stone, the kissing of which loosens the tongue and promotes elocution?

We fear the bank will just be throwing Mrs. Shaw's money away. The judge himself was skeptical of the success of its project. For once the Irish themselves have not spoken up to say how they feel over this course in social deportment. We fancy though they will take it all in stride. After all the punishment the Irish have endured this will be minor and of short duration.

Stop, Look and Listen

So involved are the complications respecting possible dropping of membership in the state retirement system for public employes and shifting to federal social security that it is advisable for groups of municipal employes considering it to stop, look and listen first. Salem employes must have come to that conclusion after hearing the subject discussed Monday night.

Perhaps the wiser course is to reexamine the state system and see what may be done to improve it, so the federal system will not be attractive in comparison.

In any event, look before you leap.

Tuesday's Windstorm

Dec. 4, 1951 will not rank in history with Dec. 7, 1941; but in this vicinity it will rank with that April day in 1931—the 21st—as the day of the Big Blow. Only this time it was from the other direction. In 1931 it was an east wind that developed into a duststorm. It blew the fine soil of the Ireland Empire over the Cascades and the air on this side of the range was filled with dust. As a matter of fact dustclouds were carried out to sea 500 miles off San Francisco, as ships reported.

Tuesday's blow was in the opposite direction. Instead of dust it bore rainwater picked up in the broad expanse of the Pacific. Where the wind "blew itself out," we do not know yet; but it was going fast when it rushed by Salem. Locally the damage done was slight. There

Egyptian Leaders' Plan to Turn People Against Great Britain May Boomerang

By J. M. Roberts, Jr.
Associated Press News Analyst

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5—(AP)—The traditional scimitar of the Moslems has but one edge, but there seems to be an increasing suspicion that it is about to start cutting both ways in Egypt.

The fanatic nationalists have been turned against the British by a cynical leadership which sought to bolster its own position by turning popular interest away from the failures of government. In doing so, the government may find itself the eventual victim of rebellion against all authority.

Renewed violence in the Suez canal reminds that it has been just 10 years since Britain had to conduct a major campaign to save the Khedive from his own people.

A Nationalist movement had become a rebellion against a government which was both corrupt and inefficient, the same as today. The Khedive was in luck to France and Britain, and when they moved in to put his financial house in order, they cut down on the army. Part of it revolted.

Nationalist uprisings already had occurred in Cairo and the Sudan. The rebels took advantage of the situation. They struck first against the Khedive, and finally occupied Alexandria, where it turned the other edge of its sword on foreign interests.

Then occurred one of the tragedies of that era. The British navy moved in, demolishing the city's forts. When that job had been completed, however, occupation of the city was unexplained and discreetly delayed. The rebels looted and burned it, killing thousands of foreigners and left the whole place a shambles.

Britain, then as now, is in a precarious position. The re-

bels attracted much sympathy throughout the Moslem world. Their leaders were exiled to Ceylon rather than executed as the Khedive wished, and Britain moved in to take over Egypt for fair. Governmental reforms were instituted, the people began to get a little better break. But Britain was a foreign ruler, the fires of Nationalism had been lit, and Moslem blood had again been spilled by a European army.

Now the Egyptian government has sicked the fanatics on the Bri-

fish, but stands in constant danger of itself being caught in the ebb and flow of violence. The government has the support of a Gandhi-like non-cooperation movement started against the British by Al Azhar, the great international central religious organization of Moslems. This is next of kin to a holy war. What will happen to this if the ugly public temper of Egypt's Moslems begins to cut both ways—against the government as well as against Britain—is another matter.

Ways in Washington

By Jane Eads

WASHINGTON (AP)—Mrs. John Steelman, wife of the assistant to President Truman, who whips up sensational hats overnight, now picks orchid corsages in her own living room.

Some sent her to the orchid plant. In addition to hat-making and orchid culture, Mrs. Steelman has a reputation as a top-flight cook. She told friends recently she enjoys getting dinners ready for her busy husband even though sometimes he phones from the White House he won't be home for dinner at all.

Sometimes he works through a straight 24-hour stretch," she said. "I just put the food away in the refrigerator and wait."

Mrs. A. Mitchell Palmer, widow of President Wilson's attorney general, hasn't missed a Supreme Court opening since 1922.

The feather in Mrs. Henry F. Grady's hat was paradise. . . one of the most extraordinary you've ever seen. Shooting up from the center, it sprayed magnificently almost to her shoulder.

Since they arrived here from Iran, the ambassador and his wife have been on a breathless round of parties in their honor.

They say Vice President Barkley can't get off so easily now for the catnaps he likes to catch now and then. An air-conditioning engineer stopped the vibration in the crystal chandeliers in his office. He claims he misses the tinkling music that one of the chandeliers, bought by Thomas Jefferson, used to make.

Mrs. John Horton, the former Drucie Snyder, glamorous daughter of the secretary of the treasury, and mother of a small son, is one of the capital's most active young socialites, what with radio programs, charity work and party-giving.

Now she's taken on another activity this season. She will be co-producer, with Mrs. Gladstone Williams, of a weekly fashion show luncheon at the Shoreham hotel. Mrs. Williams' husband is a newspaper correspondent.

Mrs. William Randolph Hearst, Jr., who used to be co-producer of "Washington Party," which attracts capital celebrities and socialites, will take part only occasionally. As "Austine," pretty Mrs. Hearst is a well-known society columnist.

AFTER TRILLIONS, WHAT?



Comes the Dawn
By Conrad Franke

D. F. Hughes, Aurora farmer, doesn't stand for any monkey business in his hen house. When his wife went out to gather eggs the other day here was this monkey in the chicken coop. And it was no yoke to the hens who were wild with excitement. So Mr. Hughes came out with his shot gun and put an end to the strange simian pullet plauger. Later everyone concerned found out the monkey was an escapee from a nearby roadside zoo.



everybody's hair, not a single marriage license application was issued at the Marion county clerk's office.

Christmas is going to be a mighty slim affair for a family of 10, recently arrived here from the mid-west. The Frank Dynes family, including eight children, were flooded out of Topeka, Kan., last July. They landed in Salem broke. A new baby came last month. Dynes, who is living at 1115 S. 17th st., apt. 3, says he doesn't want charity, he wants work. But he can do only light work. He's a carpenter by trade.

The price of keeping dogs may go up . . . Marion county court is considering a request from the county dog control board to boost the license ante on dogs. Tags now cost canine keepers \$1 for males and \$2 for females. The control board wants to boost each a buck. Oregon law leaves it up to the county courts to set fees. It's getting to be doggone expensive even to lead a dog's life these days. Marion county fees are the lowest in the state.

Marion County District Judge Val Sloper got a letter from a south Salem housewife. She complained that lunch meat sold in some stores was getting worse all the time. Wanted the judge to take up the matter of allegedly bad meat being sold in Salem . . . Street scene: It was pouring down rain and the street corner at Broadway and Market street was badly flooded. A young couple (probably married) came along. The woman was wearing boots, but not the man, so she hauled him across piggy-back. Politest woman we've ever seen.

Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I'll be through by five o'clock, and we'll try and solve your problem then."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "vague?"
3. Which one of these words is

misspelled? Emporium, calcium, millennium, hellum.
4. What does the word "conjectural" mean?

ANSWERS
1. Say, "I'll have finished by five o'clock, and we'll try to solve your problem then." 2. Pronounce vag, as in may, not as in bag. 3. Calcium. 4. Pertaining to a surmise or guess. "It was a mere conjectural opinion."

GRIN AND BEAR IT

by Lichty



"Come, come, men! . . . we haven't got that war contract, yet . . . this is still private industry . . . not urgent Government business!"

The Safety Valve

(Contributions to this column should be limited to 300 words. Write only on one side of paper; give name and full address. Poetry is not accepted.)

Flag Defends Shift to Post With Truckers

To the Editor:

After spending most of my life in the newspaper business, I am well aware of the futility of an argument with a publisher. In fact, I would not even consider writing this letter were it not for the fact that I have long had a great deal of respect for your fairness and appreciation of the kindnesses you have shown me in comments from time to time regarding the administration of this office.

I have no apologies for accepting a position with the Oregon Highway Council. They represent a major industry, and have a cause they believe to be just. I see no impropriety in making this change, any more than there was in Commissioner Frank McCulloch leaving the position I now hold and becoming a representative of one of the major railroads. He was a good public servant, and is a man of the highest type and unquestioned integrity. I doubt if you attacked him for making the change.

You state that my employment "is a signal that the public must bestir itself if the public interest is to be protected against the encroachment of private industry." In fairness, why not wait until some program has been developed by this new organization? I can assure you that I will never be identified with any attack on the public interest.

Your statement that this department submitted figures on the effect of truck taxes from which we had to retreat is completely in error, and that many misleading statements that came out of a bitter fight in the last legislature, in which representatives of the railroads rather roughly assailed everyone who did not agree with them.

Personally, I never appeared before a single committee in this connection; had no part in the preparation of figures, and was represented at all times by Mr. A. F. Harvey—and I do not believe anyone who knows him will question his absolute honesty, and his assistants. My only instruction to Mr. Harvey was that he furnish all figures desired by the legislature, and in most cases I never even saw them. But even at this late day I will guarantee their accuracy and honesty.

I discussed my offer from the Oregon Highway Council with a good many people and not one raised the question or even suggested that there was any impropriety in my taking a much better job than I had. I believe the industry has a story to tell, and it will be my job to do it. You have never attacked my administration of the very difficult and complicated job I have held during the past years, and I still hope that you will keep an open mind as regards my future activities.

The news story in the same issue of The Statesman that contained your editorial comment stated that there were two important orders pending in the department, one of which was by me appeared doubtful, one a rate order of The Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company, the other on an increase in truck rates. I assure you that I will not dodge the responsibility of issuing the telephone order, and will take no action in regard to the truck matter, as I would consider such action improper under present conditions.

GEO. H. FLAGG,
Public Utilities Commissioner.

(Editor's Note—In our comment we stated that Flagg could cite precedent for making the change. Frank McCulloch did leave the same office to enter a law firm which had a leading railroad as one of its clients. It was on his turn to a profession in which he had engaged, and was not taken on the eve of a battle over a law passed by the legislature that affected the client railroad. As for the figures submitted by Harvey to the legislative committee, he admitted at a subsequent hearing, on questioning by Sen. Patterson, that his figures were partial and did not give the

whole picture and that when all factors were considered the effect was very different from that given by the figures he submitted. The figures themselves may have been accurate, but the impression they left was false, in the opinion of committee members.)

House Movers Wanted

To the Editor:
What is the matter with Salem business men? The town of Detroit is to be moved, and so far Bend is the only city that has any house movers here, and I don't see any ads of house movers in your paper.
JAMES E. STAHLMAN,
Detroit, Ore.

SHIPPING SPURRED

DUBLIN—(INS)—A new shipbuilding program aimed at making Ireland independent of foreign shipping in wartime has been started by the Irish Government. Irish Shipping, Limited, the state-owned company plying a fleet of vessels on the trans-Atlantic and other world routes, has placed orders for five new ships to be delivered between 1952 and 1956.



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Quote for the Day

If the frontiers of thought be not advanced steadily, they retrograde, like an abandoned farm growing up in brush.
—Boston Globe

NO MORE STEAKS

ST. LOUIS—(AP)—William Thornton was carrying no money when he answered a knock on the door and was confronted by a robber. But the robber didn't leave empty-handed. He reached in Thornton's pocket and took his false teeth, valued at \$75.

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