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EDITOR AND PUBLISHER: Alton F. Baker
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UNVEILING THE POLICE MYSTERY

Because the city council's police committee chose to make a considerable mystery in the suspension of Sergeant Roy Wilcox, not only Mr. Wilcox but Chief Bergman and the entire police department have suffered these last few days from the perfectly natural tendency to put two and two together and get sixteen. Gossip has had the chief and the sergeant and the force and the committee all pictured as conspiring to put the "shush" on perfectly awful things.

As a matter of fact, unless the committee is holding out on internal disturbances in the department, the immediate causes of the Wilcox case are very simple. While chasing a stolen car down West Eleventh one night recently the sergeant ordered the young patrolman with him to open fire. Some of the bullets went astray and entered a dwelling, endangering the occupants. There were complaints. The sergeant was on the carpet for bad judgment.

Just why should it have been necessary for such a simple case ever to go through the rigamarole of the police committee? Is Chief Bergman running the department and handling his officers and men, or is he tied to the committee's apron strings. If Wilcox committed a serious blunder, it was for the chief to suspend him instantly. If Wilcox felt he was being dealt with unfairly, it was for him to appeal to the civil service commission and get a public hearing before an impartial tribunal.

No police chief whether his name is Carl Bergman or John B. Miraculous can maintain discipline and hold the respect and confidence of his men if he is deprived of full authority and responsibility. It's up to the commanding officer to be mighty sure he is fair and right, of course. He can't be trivial or he'll find himself on the spot at civil service hearings instead of his officers. But there isn't the slightest doubt that the civil service commission would support the chief in any reasonable program of discipline.

What then, is left for the city council in police affairs? It is still their job to lay down general police policy, to determine, for instance whether we have enough police for the town's needs, whether they are paid an adequate wage, whether there is too much or too little emphasis on traffic in relation to other police problems, to consult with the chief or with members of the department on many matters of relationship with the public.

It is NOT the council's function to meddle with the administration of the department which is what the chief is hired for. It's hard to get away from old habits, but the council should remember that when the people voted for civil service they meant to take the selection and discipline of policemen and firemen out of councilmanic politics. We have a high regard for the members of the council police committee. We believe the unfortunate reactions from their methods in the Wilcox case should warn them to stand aside and let the chief and civil service function as intended.

A British magistrate advocates a plan to permit offenders to serve prison terms on week-ends. If it catches on here, a lot of people will be slipping up the river instead of down to the seashore on Saturdays.

A hat manufacturer says that men's hats will depart from conventional styles and that the summer's straw hats will appear in novelty forms. And to think of all the nasty things we said about women's hats.

Residents of Berlin may not heat water except on Saturdays and Sundays hereafter. Only the government will be permitted to be in hot water during the week.

It looks as if Cactus Jack Garner is really serious about being a presidential candidate. Twice in the same week he stayed out after curfew.

London is losing its title as the world's largest city through evacuation, all of which is probably just as well. Seemed the island was beginning to bog a little on one end.

The federal government is trying to figure out where it will scrape up \$460,000,000 in additional taxes. How about setting up pig banks in the executive departments?

Everything, from bridesmaids to publicity, is furnished for \$75 by a San Francisco wedding service. After the ceremony, however, it's the bridegroom's problem.

A southern resident protested against paying the annual street tax because he had

Trans-Atlantic planes may cut Bermuda from their itinerary if the British don't keep their fingers out of U. S. mail bags. Doesn't Chamberlain know it's a penitentiary offense to open someone else's mail?

WASHINGTON LETTER

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 21.—In the past 10 days telegrams and letters have arrived from the fruit industry in Oregon asking support for the Barton measure which makes amendments to the wage-hour bill. Briefly, Oregon's fruit industry wants agriculture exempt from the wage-hour law, as was originally intended by congress when the statute was enacted, but the administrator has been including more or less agricultural products and it has injured the fruit growers and canners of the Pacific Northwest.

It is a fair prediction that there will be no wage-hour legislation at this session because of a very peculiar situation, one of those congressional quirks revealing the absolute power of committees and of chairmen in particular. To the uninitiated, the explanation will be an eye-opener.

Mary Norton, stylishly stout chairman of the house committee on labor, has an administration written and backed bill amending the wage hour act. In her committee are two other bills, dealing with the same subject (Barton's is one), which neither Mrs. Norton nor the administration want. As a chairman is the unquestioned dictator of a committee, Mrs. Norton has not permitted her committee to consider the other two.

Last August Mrs. Norton went to the rules committee requesting a rule for her bill and the rule she received was like Dead Sea fruit. Committee on rules is, in final analysis, the steering committee which decides whether a controversial measure can get to the floor and only a petition signed by a majority of the representatives (218) can override the committee.

Here is the rule given Mrs. Norton: She can have her bill (H. R. 5435) debated for three hours in the house, sitting as a committee of the whole house, after which the bill will be read and after reading the first section all shall be stricken out except the enacting clause, and substituted for the part stricken will be the text of H. R. 7439 (Barton's bill).

Sounds screwy, but that is congress. Mrs. Norton wants her own bill and no other reported favorably by her committee. If she brings out her bill all she gets is general debate and then her bill is cut off behind the ears and the Barton measure substituted. Based on this situation it can be assumed that Mrs. Norton will stand pat; will not lead her own bill to the execution nor report out the two bills she does not like. Ergo, no immediate prospect of wage-hour act being amended by the house.

Just as gossip of the national capital has been predicting for a year, that the Jimmy Roosevelt would split the blanket, the same gossips have been predicting for many months that the Franklin D. Jr.'s are headed in the same direction. Young F. D. R. is a night club frequenter. At the recent birthday ball held for his father, young Franklin did his dancing with two visiting movie stars, neglected his wife (former Dupont heiress), and she left the White House returning home alone. This sort of gossip (there is plenty more of it), is not merely whispered—it is printed.

Three of the president's children divorced since the family entered the White House, with rumors of a fourth crash, is a record. It is causing eyebrows to lift and the question asked what kind of bringing up the president and first lady gave their progeny.

Howard Costigan, Commonwealth Federation leader of Washington state, and Irving Goodwin, Portland lawyer, have been in the national capital wanting federal action to protect civil liberties in the Evergreen state, where the wife of a CIO organizer was killed in Gray's Harbor district.

Chairman Dies of the committee investigating un-American activities, plans looking into the causes leading to an attack on a communist dance by Finn sympathizers. Assertions have been made that the reds are so bold in two districts of Washington state that they should be investigated.

Since 1935 NLRB has been "after" the Washougal (Wash.) Woolen Mills. The case dragged along until for the past year and a half nothing was done. Then the board issued its preliminary order. Last week lawyers from Vancouver and Portland, representing the union and the employers, were permitted to argue their case. There are 1200 pages of testimony in the case. NLRB gave the lawyers 30 minutes in which to hit the high spots and get out. In the local police court a woman was given a hour to explain why she should not pay a fine for violating a traffic parking rule.

The president has approved as eligible for \$26,501 of WPA funds a project under army engineers to clear and grub the Cottage Grove and Fern Ridge dam and reservoir sites, which are part of the Willamette valley project for flood control.

AN EDITORIAL ON HEALTH

By DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN
Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association, and of Hygiene, the Health Magazine
In 1785, William Withering, a distinguished physician in Birmingham, England, published a book on the medical use of foxglove, or digitalis, for dropsy. Apparently its use originated with the old gatherers of herbs who found out purely by chance that the leaves of the foxglove had a specific effect on the elimination of collections of fluid from the body.

In the time of William Withering dropsy was regarded as a primary disease. When Withering began to use digitalis, it was an attempt to remove all sorts of accumulations of fluid from the body, he was surprised to discover that collections of water in the brain (called hydrocephalus) and collections of water in sacs in various organs of the body (like the ovary and the kidney) did not disappear.

In 1776, Withering learned from an old woman in Shropshire, England, that foxglove was good for dropsy. He began trying it, observing its effects. He discovered that digitalis had a special effect on the heart. His exact words were that it had "a power over the motion of the heart to a degree yet unobserved in any other medicine, and this power may be converted to salutary ends."

The value of digitalis was so apparent and so definite, as far as concerned its ability to slow the motion of the heart and give it added strength, that there was little gain in our knowledge of the drug during the entire nineteenth century. During the first 10 years of the present century, however, careful studies were made and during recent years the discovery of the electro-cardiograph (which traces the impulse that passes through the heart when the heart beats) has helped us to learn a great deal more about the effects of this drug.

Today it is recognized that in certain forms of congestive heart failure digitalis saves life. When hearts fail and when the rhythm of the heart is disturbed this drug tends to bring about conditions in which the heart is able to carry on its work. There is probably no drug in medicine which demands greater knowledge for proper use than does digitalis. Digitalis, like the other Magic Medicinal Plants, is a drug with which it is possible to destroy life as well as to save it. The dosage of the drug must be calculated with the utmost care for every patient and changed from time to time according to conditions that develop.

• NEXT: Anesthesia—one of mankind's greatest blessings



BISCUITS COMING UP—When an egg-beater beat out a T-square in the affections of Tommy O'Grady, Alabama Polytechnic Institute sophomore, he gave up civil engineering and went into home economics. Above, he mixes up biscuits.

Professor DeCout Praised By Math Society Journal Allied Force Is Ready

Recognition of the recently organized Portland Council of Mathematics Teachers, and warm praise for E. E. DeCout, professor of mathematics at the University of Oregon, was accorded by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics in the recent issue of the society's journal, copies of which have just been received on the university campus.

The Portland council was formed last year, after Professor DeCout, Oregon representative of the national body, delivered an address before mathematics teachers in Portland.

The article describes progress made by the Portland group, and

'Old Oregon' Shows Campus In Pictures

Crammed with pictures, in journalistic streamlined style, the February issue of Old Oregon, alumni publication for the University of Oregon, appeared Monday.

The number, the first to be edited by Roy Vernstrom, recently appointed to the staff, also featuring Germany two years ago. Assendorf, exchange student here from Germany two years ago. Assendorf vigorously defends the German position, and also gives considerable inside information on war conditions abroad.

An article by Carleton E. Spencer, professor of law and director of civilian pilot training for the university, describes the work of the students who are learning to fly under the federal arrangement here. A new feature, "The fact man" edited by James Bank, gives a history of the career of George S. Turnbull, professor of journalism, whose recent book on the history of journalism in Oregon has won wide praise.

The issue also contains considerable campus news, a review of sports and items of various classes.

HELLO FOLKS

"Our Pre-Inventory Sale has been fine and we really got action. There are 3 Majestic Consoles left at a real cut price, several Floor Lamps, and other electrical items, also a 32 piece Dish Set decorated at \$3.29 which sold regularly at \$5.75. Our Sale ends Saturday. If you miss this sale you've really missed something. Come in and look around. Thanks."—Dick Matteson

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Sale Price . . . \$5.95

LIGHTNING'S

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Coeds Nominate For Three Groups

Three all-campus women's organizations will hold annual elections in Gerlinger hall at the University of Oregon Thursday. Nominations for offices are as follows:

Associated Women Students—Grace Irvin, Redmond, and Betty Buchanan, Salem, for president; Bette Norwood, Jamieson, Barbara Stallcup, Montague, Cal., and Pat Taylor, Milwaukie, for vice president; Phyllis Sanders, Piedmont, Cal., Betty Plankington, and Maxine Hansen, both of Portland, for secretary; Elizabeth Steed, Salem, and Billie Christensen, La Grande, for treasurer; Billie Wade, Condon, Adele Canada, Portland, and Betty Jane Biggs, Yuba City, Cal., reporter; Helen Moore, Klamath Falls, Virginia Malloy, Portland, Mary Ellen Smith, Oswego, and Caroline Holmes, Berkeley, Cal., for sergeant-at-arms.

Nominated for offices in the Women's Athletic association were Bette Morfit and Joanne Riesch, both of Portland, for president; Janet Morris and Hope Hughes, both of Eugene, for vice president; Becky Anderson, Eugene, Jean Burt, Colton, and Nancy Ann Johnson, Troutdale, for secretary; Barbara Bamford, La Jolla, Cal., Ruth Larkin, Eugene, Ethel Dixon, Klamath Falls, treasurer; Martha McClung, Merced, Cal., Mildred McCarthy, Grants Pass, Hazel Oldfield, Leaburg, custodian; Mary Belcher, Tacoma, Wash., Marge Dibble, Portland, reporter; Pat Lawson, Paisley, Betty Mae Lind, Eugene, Margaret Shipley, Oswego, Nancy Allen, Beverly Hills, Cal., for sergeant-at-arms.

Named for offices in the University Young Women's Christian association are Marge Montgomery and Jean Crites, both of Eugene, for president; Bobbie Roehm, Berkeley, Cal., Lois Nording, Eugene, for secretary; Kathleen Brady, Allegany, Trudy Anderson, Portland, for treasurer. The girl receiving the fewest number of votes in the presidential contest will be named vice president.

Masons Confer Degree

FLORENCE, Feb. 21.—(Special)—Seventy-eight Masons attended the special meeting of Florence Lodge 107 A. F. and A. M. recently when the master mason degree was conferred upon Harry Price, local state police officer, by Captain Lansing and his degree team composed of members of the state police force. Following the conferring of the degree a banquet was served in the dining room with L. R. Swarthout, worshipful master of Florence lodge, presiding as toastmaster. Lodges represented were Salem, Portland, Roseburg, Eugene, Mapleton, Newport and Gardiner.

Funeral services were held at the Evangelical church in Florence this week for Galen E. Morse who died in Eugene at the Eugene hospital. Until the past few years, when he had made his home at Westlake, he had made Florence his home and operated a barber shop here for many years. He was a member of Florence Lodge 107 A. F. and A. M. and Heceta Lodge 111, I. O. O. F., the Masonic order being in charge at the church and the Odd Fellows at the cemetery.

Lenten Lesson

Philippians 2:1-12.
If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, fulfill ye my joy, that ye be like-minded having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife and vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus; who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God; but made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of man; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name, which is above every name:

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth:
11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out

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your own salvation with fear and trembling. SURELY not His intellectual mind! We can never hope to have a mind as luminous and lofty as our Lord's.

It is His mindedness in one particular that is meant—the humility of His spirit. Think! He was equal with God, yet consented to be made in the likeness of men. He knew how it felt to be despised and rejected. He submitted Himself to be mocked and scourged, and finally to be nailed on the cruel, the ignominious Cross! He humbled Himself and became obedient as that, for your sake and mine—the death of the Cross!

One of the saints was asked what was the first step to heaven, and he answered, Humility. They asked him what was the second step and he answered again, Humility. And when he was asked what the third step was he answered, Humility. Humility is the whole way.

Humility is opposite to being proud and self-sufficient, and thinking we can get along without the power and love of God. It is putting the glory of God above the praise of men, in all we think and do and say. It is letting God be God.

SURPRISE PARTY

VAUGHN, Feb. 21.—(Special)—Mrs. R. R. Harbert gave a surprise party recently in honor of her husband's birthday. The evening was spent playing cards and Chinese checkers. Luncheon was served, the birthday cakes being made by Mrs. Weldon, Mrs. Tompkins and Mrs. Herbert. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ellingser, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tomp-

kins, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Ritter, Mrs. M. R. Harbert.

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