

THE BEND BULLETIN

and CENTRAL OREGON PRESS

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LEGISLATIVE REFORM

Though it appeared some days ago it is not too late to reprint and call attention to the editorial from the Astorian-Budget, "State Legislative Reform," that will be found on this page today. Every citizen should be interested in the improvement of the state's legislative processes. Every citizen should welcome constructive criticism and if it comes from a trained and experienced observer every citizen should give the criticism particular attention. The criticism and the suggestions discussed in the editorial referred to are from such an observer.

With the legislature recently adjourned we find in our exchanges many other suggestions for the improvement of its procedure. Among the best, it seems to us, are those for placing a time limit on the introduction of bills. Certainly, every bill from any state department or agency should be ready for introduction on the opening day of the session. Some bills, we gather, are often held back until a propitious moment for their introduction arrives. How would it be if "propitious" were defined entirely with respect to the good of the state rather than of some special interest behind a bill?

"Sky" Dunlap, who makes the suggestions discussed in the reprinted editorial is a competent news man. Since he has suggested how the work of the legislature might be improved we shall venture to suggest how the work of the men who report the legislature could be bettered. Let all of them stop writing about the length of time the sessions endure and give their readers some of the more intimate detail about why the delays occur. We have seen almost nothing of the Oregon legislature in action in this or other years but after each session we are told by persons who were there stories of doings that are never even hinted at in the papers, stories of deals and of special interest activities and stories of a background nature that would make interesting reading.

CAUSING DELAY

An important point is made in the Spokane chamber of commerce expression of opposition to the Mitchell bill that would set up a Columbia valley authority. The vote of the chamber trustees was reported in the news last week and one of the grounds given was "that the creation of such an authority would delay the Columbia basin project."

Spokane, of course, is vitally interested in the basin project. It has worked for the development of the Coulee dam and the irrigation and settlement of the lands in the great area included in the project. The city has noted that under the Mitchell bill the Columbia basin project and the Grand coulee dam are to be turned over to the authority managers who will thus take control of these two undertakings from the bureau of reclamation.

The city has noted further that if the authority corporation is set up its managers are to take two years to prepare plans for the unified development of the Columbia valley region. Spokane and every other area for which development plans have already matured see in this provision of the bill a threat of at least a two year delay.

Naturally and properly they cannot look on this prospect with equanimity. In view of the threat to future farm development that the bill contains it is difficult to understand the support given it by some granges.

Eighteen out of 20 items sold this month by the RFC disposing loan agency in Portland were new. They were sold for \$28,095.28. The two used items sold for \$1,415. We would like to bet—though we know that we cannot offer proof—that while these materials are sold others like them are being bought. That's the way Washington runs things these days.

What is the difference between the Japanese navy and its national symbol, the Rising sun? None. Each is sinking.

Others Say . . .

STATE LEGISLATIVE REFORM?

(Astorian-Budget) John "Sky" Dunlap, United Press bureau chief in Portland, wrote a piece last week end of Salem commenting upon "old-time habits" and procedure of the Oregon legislature which retards its work. Dunlap "covered" the California legislature for the UP in Sacramento before going to Portland. He is a serious-minded observer of politics and governmental affairs.

As a handicap to well-ordered legislative work, Dunlap cites the committee system in both houses at Salem. It has already been noted that there are probably too many committees; that only a very small number of important committees in both houses get bulk of the toughest bills. But Dunlap observes that the schedule of meetings "is so haphazard that members find it hard to attend, let alone the public, press or others interested."

Commenting that committee hearings themselves universally are "well-conducted in Oregon, with all factions getting fair treatment," Dunlap proposes that it would be wise to eliminate guesswork and confusion for an orderly weekly calendar of committee sessions. "At the beginning of the session," he says, "each house could allot each committee a definite meeting period and room, printed in the daily publications. Where possible, bills to be heard at each meeting could be listed. Special meetings could be called for exceptional instances."

Dunlap observes that some states, usually with larger memberships than Oregon, have found it wise to consolidate committees to a maximum of 20 to 25 in each house. Oregon has 20 in the senate and 36 in the house. However, Dunlap believes "this would not be too unwieldy if a master plan kept them unentangled."

Dunlap concludes that "committee work is too important to be slipshod, yet the same confusion ab-

exists every session." "The Oregon legislature, like the state itself, has out-grown the provincialism of a frontier state," he says. "Oregon's business has become big business. The legislature is putting on long pants."

Bend's Yesterdays

TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO

(From The Bulletin Files)

(March 22, 1920)

G. W. Foster, former proprietor of the Wright hotel, sells his 240 acres and 30 head of cattle near Sisters to Fred Adkins, for \$11,000.

Hearing on the petition of the C.O.I. to increase its charges for maintenance, is postponed by the public service commission until April 1.

H. E. Norden returns to Bend from Portland, and reports that he has accepted the directorship for Deschutes and Crook counties in the fund campaign of the Baptist new world movement.

"Fire prevention pays," comments Fire Chief Tom Carlson in making known there has been no fires in Bend for over a month.

Mrs. Kate Warner of Primeville, is a Bend visitor.

Hans Zimmerman of Crescent, makes a business call here.

R. N. Buchwalter goes to Portland to acquire more stock for the fishing season.

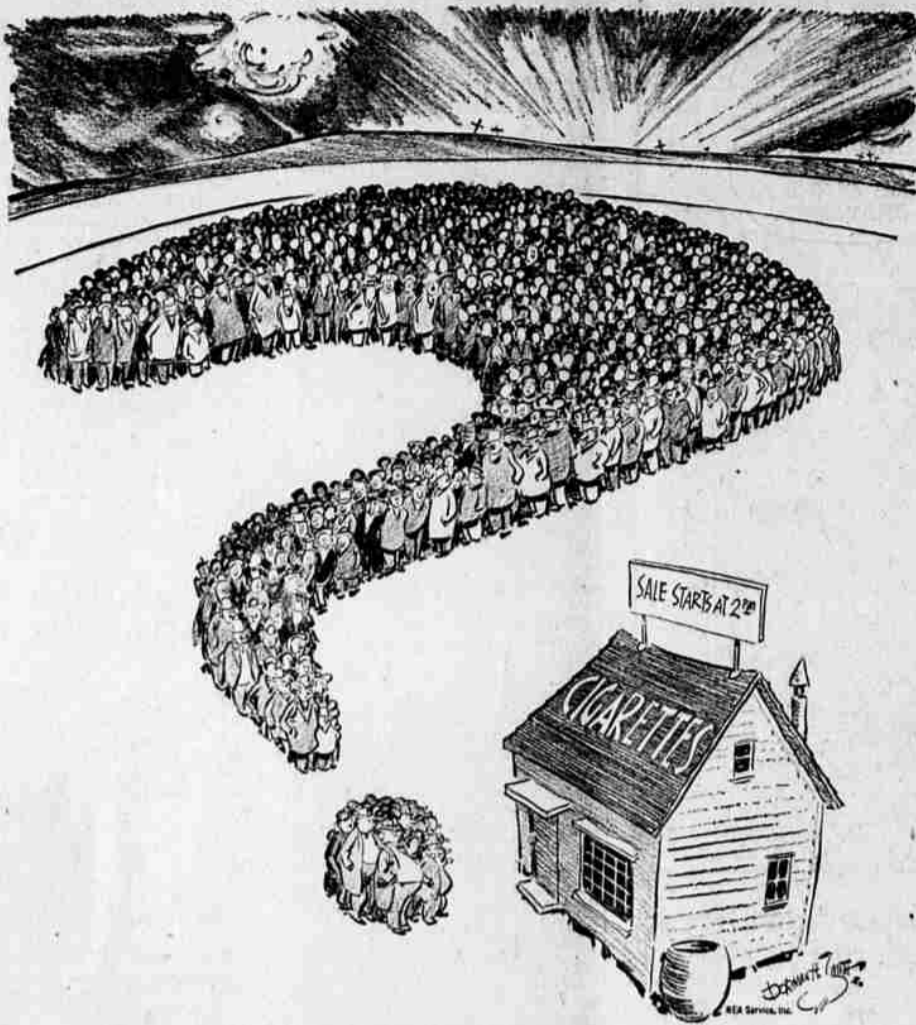
W. P. Sartain of Tacoma, arrives to accept a position on The Bulletin as a linotype operator.

PROFESSIONAL PRIDE

Boston (U)—A professional safe-cracker, Howard F. Pratt, explains that there is something about the safe business so fascinating that once you get into it, you can't get out. "That," he said, "is the reason why our jails are always full."

The nearest of the spiral nebulae is nearly a million light years

The Great Manpower Problem



Death's BRIGHT DIAMONDS by Lionel Mosher

THE STORY: Nick Trent, army pilot, has been buzz-bombed out of the war. On the boat home a mysterious stranger named Booker makes him a vague money-proposition which he turns down. Pat Hudson and Charley Strand, old friends, greet him at the dock. While Nick is waiting for Charley later that afternoon in the lobby of the Parker House, Booker reappears, introduces him to exotic Magda Calavestri. On parting, Calavestri presses a valuable diamond amulet into his hand and whispers "Tonight," Nick has dinner with the Hudsons. The doorbell rings and Pat says she expects Eric.

ERIC WOOLF

Ever since I had known Eric Woolf, I had been convinced that he never made a move without calculating precisely where it would land him on the scale of his own personal aggrandizement. As he entered the room, I saw that his close-cropped blond hair had been bleached almost white by the sun. He was smiling, but his eyes were the palest and coldest of blues.

"Well, Trent," Woolf put out his hand. "How are you?" "I'm all right," I said.

"You had a lovely lady worried," He rubbed his hands and glanced at Pat.

"He's not supposed to know that," answered Pat dryly.

"But, of course," Woolf helped himself to a cigarette from the box on the table. "You know, you were in all the papers, Trent."

"Was I?" "Um-hm—headlines, too, Boston aviator wounded. Former Harvard athlete, hero of 30 missions over Germany, hit by rocket bomb." He laughed lightly. "Quite a disturbance."

"It was not very funny," I said. "Really?" He was still smiling. "Then they are quite effective—the robots?"

"One of them, well-placed," I said, "can kill at least a hundred women and children."

"The women and children," Eric said; "that is regrettable. But in total war—that happens."

"There's nothing like viewing a thing with Olympian detachment," I said.

Eric sat there, immaculate and fit in his Oxford gray suit with the pencil stripe.

"How is your father, Miss Pat?" he asked.

"Grumpy," said Pat. "He thinks the world is going to pot."

"I'll bear up under it," I said. But I had the feeling that if I stayed any longer something unpleasantly virile might follow. Pat read my eyes.

"I'll get your coat," she said. Eric was frowning.

"Have you your old rooms at the Esplanade?" he asked. "I'm staying with Charley Strand," I replied.

That innocent little question of Woolf's came back to me later. But it was not until the very grim business of what had started out like a quiet Saturday night was over.

(To Be Continued)

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications are invited on matters of current and local interest. Letters should be not over 400 words in length, on only one side of the paper and, if possible, typewritten. Letters or manuscripts submitted for publication will not be returned.

REGARDING GROSBEAKS

To the Editor: May I add a few comments about the grosbeaks mentioned in The Bulletin recently.

The western grosbeak with its striking appearance and very tame manner excites comment when it is seen about town.

They could hardly be called harbingers of spring, however, as they have been a very common sight this winter.

In "Birds of Oregon" they are listed as permanent residents. Winters and early spring they are found in the lower valleys and in summer they return to the mountains.

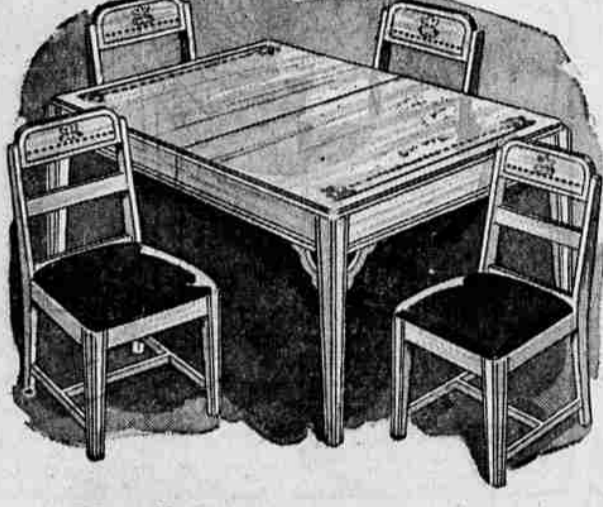
Here at the ranch they have been noted every month since early in October. In fact they have been outnumbered only by the northwestern robin. This year has been a good berry year and great



Bend Furniture Suggests Hard-To-Get FURNITURE NEEDS

Many items have been, due to the war, hard-to-get and still continue that way. A visit to Bend Furniture will convince you that stocks here are complete—that many of those items you have been wanting are again obtainable.

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Glass Wash Boards, 2 sizes . . . . .95c — \$1.10 Unfinished Breakfast Chairs . . . . . \$1.95 Large Size Clothes Hamper . . . . . \$2.25

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companies of robins, grosbeaks, thrushes and the sleek waxwings have all been competing for the juniper berries.

Mrs. Hilda Franks, Route 2.

The average modern airplane requires a half-ton of alloys containing at least 90% magnesium, the remainder being aluminum, zinc, or manganese.

Motorists Asked To Check Tires

Reporting that the tire situation is growing more acute, Harold Carlile, chairman of the Bend war price and ration board, today urged Bend residents to check their tires, and to have them recapped if necessary.

Inaugurating a "check-your-tire-week," Carlile said that unless tires are cared for now there will be many idle automobiles. He ex-

plained that first-grade tires are being issued only to essential industry workers, and that tire quotas are being slashed each month.

Suy National War Bonds Now

What Are You Missing? SERVICES EVERY NIGHT First Baptist Church 7:30 P. M. Spiritual Life Crusade Rev. Floyd Arnold

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FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS

