

Capital Journal

Salem, Oregon

Established March 1, 1888

An Independent Newspaper Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday at 136 S. Commercial Street, Telephone 21, News 42

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

By carrier—10 cents a week; 45 cents a month; \$5.00 a year in advance. By mail in Marion, Polk, Lincoln and Yamhill counties, one month \$0.50; 3 months \$1.25; 6 months \$2.25; 1 year \$4.00. Elsewhere 50c a month; 6 months \$2.75; \$5.00 a year in advance.

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"Without or with offense to friends or foes I sketch your world exactly as it goes."
—Byron

Salvaging Democracy

Will Durant, the New York author who specializes in presenting the philosophy of others in homeopathic doses for mass consumption in popular form, told the Virginia Institute of Public Affairs yesterday that there was no way out of the domination of political life in the United States by men of third-rate ability, except to make education a qualification of public office.

In his address on "Is Democracy a Failure?" Durant said the final "breakdown of democracy appeared in the increasing insecurity of life in our cities, where political machines were in league with the world of crime and in the inability of Congress to face the complex economic problems confronting it every day."

Mr. Durant's remedy is for the universities to establish schools of public administration in which students would be specifically and technically prepared for the task of government as they are now prepared for medicine, engineering and law and that no one would be eligible to municipal office unless he had had such training. He would supplement this by practical training in office and promotion for ability, such as the mayor of a first class city should first be mayor of a second class city, and the mayor of a second class city, be first mayor of a third class city, etc.

Education is his suggestion for salvaging democracy. Every adult would vote, but no one could vote for an unqualified candidate and "democracy would be made fool proof." Perhaps, but at present it has no desire for efficiency in office and the college bred autocracy it would create might be as obnoxious as the present chaotic system, and equally subject to manipulation, for education doesn't always mean either brains or principle.

Every man thinks he has a divine right to run for office and the more ignorant and stupid he is, the more sure he is of his qualifications. All he has to be is a good hand-shaker, back-slapper and demagogue to get the votes—and it is a right that will not be surrendered without struggle.

In the meantime we suggest a far simpler system, the compelling of every candidate to submit to an intelligence test, publishing the result and barring those under 15 years old mentally—which would eliminate a considerable number of office seekers and holders. Of course it would not guarantee honesty in public office but it would eliminate stupidity and bone-headedness, which costs the public more than crookedness.

Endurance Records

Another endurance flight record has been smashed, the St. Louis fliers having stayed up longer than the 554 hour record set at Chicago last month and Messrs. Dale Jackson and Forest O'Brine are again "heroes" of the air for a few fleeting hours, in the same class with the flag pole sitters, the human burial corpse, and the juvenile tree sitters, marathon dancers and bike peddlars, until somebody else breaks their records.

The first few endurance flights served a useful purpose in demonstrating the practicability of refueling in the air for sustained flights. Subsequent flights have been simply for notoriety and advertising for machine makers and supply houses, along with the cash gathered from movies, theaters and radio. Its justification probably is that in no other way could the fliers secure publicity or make as much money.

The endurance flight now serves no useful purpose, unless it be to demonstrate the capacity of both men and machinery to stand punishment. Given both human and machine stamina, only the weather can prevent the present or future records from falling. The fliers themselves are in the same class mentally with the machine and no more monotonous pastime could be imagined unless it be pole and tree sitting.

Anything But a Blessing

Some of the agricultural papers are hailing the eastern drought as a blessing in disguise for the farmers as it will eliminate, for the time being the surplus, and bring higher prices for those who have a partial crop and those in favored localities who have escaped drought damage.

The fallacy of the reasoning is that any prosperity ensuing must come as the result of the losses of others and the hardship, misery and poverty of large areas of farmers, whose condition will react in curtailed consumption, decreased buying power, loss of traffic and a prolongation of the era of depression.

The predicted revival of business will be indefinitely delayed, for the farmer will be more prostrate than before and the great market for manufactured products be seriously curtailed. No effort at artificial maintenance of stock market prices, as has been witnessed during the year, can succeed with the basic conditions growing worse instead of better.

When the buyer's earnings are eliminated or curtailed, the seller feels the reaction and the manufacturer is forced to retrench, increasing unemployment in industrial areas. So instead of being a blessing to farmers, the drought is a calamity to the entire country.

CARS ARE DAMAGED AT LIBERTY STREET

Liberty—A car driven by Valada Olson of Salem suffered mangled fenders and a bent axle Monday evening when she tried to stop for the stop sign at Liberty. The car skidded into and damaged two cars belonging to Guy Williams and W. H. Neuens which were parked by the side of the Liberty street. The Williams car has a mangled fender and bent axle and the Neuens car a mangled fender. Excess speed was the cause of the accident. No one was hurt although Mr. and Mrs. Neuens and daughter, Lillian were in the Neuens car.

PARK IS POPULAR PLACE AT STAYTON

Stayton—The American Legion's park is the most popular place in town during the hot weather. There is a large crowd in swimming every afternoon and the new golf course which was opened Sunday is proving very popular as the entire 18 holes are in the shade. The course is open from 10 a. m. to 10 p. m. every day.

PAGES HAVE SON

Jefferson—Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Page are the parents of an 8-1/2 pound son, born Monday, August 11 at their home in the Parrish Gap district.

KRAUGER AT RESORT

Liberty—Charles Krauger is spending a few weeks at Breitenbush hot springs, hoping to benefit by the curative properties of the springs. During his absence Miss Dorothy Coffey is helping in the store of which he is the proprietor.

BARKERS ARE HOME

Woods—Ray Barker motored to Woods, near Pacific City, where his wife and two small daughters have been vacationing and spent a day fishing. He caught the limit of trout in a few hours. His wife and children returned home with him the following day.

"HAVE A HEART, MISTER JUPITER"



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CRACK SHOTS AT CLACKAMAS

Crack shots of the Oregon national guard will begin assembling at Camp Clackamas Wednesday night for a six-day competition, beginning Thursday, for the selection of a team to represent the national guard in the national rifle matches at Camp Perry, Ohio.

The team will leave Portland August 20 and arrive at Camp Perry August 24, remaining until September 14. The government defrays all expenses.

The team will again be led by Col. Fred M. West of Portland who has led the teams since 1920. On three occasions the Oregon national guard team has outshot the best teams of the regular army and won the infantry trophy. On one occasion a member of the Oregon team, Sergeant William P. Hayes of Portland won the long distance world championship.

Cities whose national guard units will be represented in the trial matches at Camp Clackamas are Klamath Falls, Ashland, Grants Pass, Marshfield, Corvallis, Salem, Silverton, McMinnville, Forest Grove, Portland and St. Helens.

The personnel of the civilian team to represent Oregon was announced from national guard headquarters Tuesday.

ROBERTS ARE HOSTS
Donald—A family dinner was enjoyed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Roberts Sunday. Guests included Mr. and Mrs. William Sterling, Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Smith and children, Don and Helen of Everett, Fred Roberts, Miss Pauline Guile of Tacoma and Mr. and Mrs. H. Hawten of Albany. Don and Helen Smith remained here for two weeks' visit. The latter is spending this week at Albany with the Hawtens.

INFANT CHRISTENED
Mt. Angel—Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Hauth christened their infant daughter Mary Ann, Mrs. Cecelia Skometznie and John Schallberger were the godparents.

ATTEND REUNION
Gervais—Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Cutsforth and family accompanied by their parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Cutsforth drove to Brownsville Sunday and attended the annual Cutsforth reunion held at that place.

WORKS AT WAREHOUSE
Gervais—G. J. Moisan has his nephew, Tom Vincent, of Wren, assisting him in the warehouse. Tom will remain until after all the grain is harvested.

GRAVES HAVE SON
Silverton—A six and one-half pound boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Wilber Graves at the local hospital Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Graves are living at Camp 14.

RETURN FROM LOOP TRIP
Turner—Rev. and Mrs. William Burgoyne and their daughter, Ruth Helen, accompanied by the former's father, James Burgoyne of Los Angeles, enjoyed a trip to Mt. Hood climbing to the glaciers and visiting

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WOOD CARVINGS BY JANITOR ARE PUT ON EXHIBIT

Mexico City (AP)—Americans who view the Carnegie exhibit of Mexican Art which soon is to begin a tour of the United States will have an opportunity to judge whether Diego Rivera, as head of the Academy of Fine Arts, was justified in appointing his janitor to a place on the faculty. Three wood carvings by the janitor-professor, Mardonio Magana, are to be included in the exhibit.

Other members of the Fine Arts faculty, incensed at the implication of equality with the man who formerly swept their floors, protested so strongly that both Rivera and Magana lost their jobs. The storm which broke over the heads of the director and the 62-year-old janitor rocked art circles of Mexico to their foundations and Rivera was publicly challenged to at least one duel—which he declined with thanks.

Janitor Magana's appointment to a professorship had been decided, Rivera told the irate faculty members, on the basis of his talent and with no regard for his social position. This talent, he said, had been developed by the janitor through many years of practice and observation of artists of the Academy. In the opinion of Director Rivera, the appointment was better justified than some that had been made by previous directors.

These arguments availed nothing, however, before the wrath of the offended professors.

Rivera, famed artist whose murals are seen by almost every tourist here, is engaged now in some murals at Cuernavaca, commissioned by Ambassador Morrow. Magana no longer is either janitor or professor as the circumstances under which he was forced from his last job prevented his resuming the first. Living in poverty, he is devoting his time to carving.

A bill to tax male domestic servants was recently introduced into the English House of Lords.

Forest Fires Add To Damage of Drought Middle-West States

Menominee, Mich. (UP)—Rain Wednesday was considered the only thing that could halt the advance of forest fires which had taken at least one life as they crackled through hundreds of acres of brush and timber lands in the upper Michigan peninsula.

Forest rangers said winds might fan the more serious fires to disastrous proportions and send the flames to within striking distance of villages and farm homes. The weather throughout the danger area was reported fair.

Automobile traffic was halted between Cedar river and Stephenson when burning trees fell across the road. Great Lakes steamships reported smoke was pouring out over Lake Michigan and endangering boat travel.

George Grassy, 60, was burned to death near Ralph, Mich., when his clothing caught fire while he was carrying water from a creek in an attempt to quench a blaze near his cabin.

More than 1,000 volunteers and rangers were fighting the fires and state forestry officials sent out calls for more help. The officials reported many laborers refused to join the army of fire fighters because they claimed \$3 a day wages were insufficient.

A crew of 500 men succeeded in checking one fire after it had burned within a half mile of Menominee, twenty other less serious blazes were reported in this section.

Ashland, Wis. (UP)—Thirty forest fires were reported raging through large areas of brush and cut over timber land in northern Wisconsin Wednesday, threatening to reach farm homes "unless they were checked soon by rain."

A volunteer crew of 50 Indians battled a fire on the Bad River reservation near Dauby and Drummond. They succeeded in saving several farm homes, but could not totally check the fire.

Other fires were reported near Odanah and Drummond.

Prince Albert, Sask. (UP)—Forest fires which have been eating their

COAST RESORT CALLS

Donald—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Bush of this place and Mr. and Mrs. Albert McKay of St. Paul are on a vacation at the beaches, going first to Seaside. Bob Whitworth of Fargo, is in charge of the meat market during Bush's absence.

GRIES HAVE GIRL

Sublimity—Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Gries are the parents of a daughter born to them at the Stayton hospital Saturday, August 9.

Come to the thrilling Wild West celebration at Fortuna Aug. 15 to 17: FORTUNA—Humboldt Co. Roads.

GOING TO CALIFORNIA

TRAVEL this summer by the picturesque Redwood Highway between Eureka and San Francisco, via Eureka—a direct route leading through scenic forests of the oldest and tallest of trees. The highway reaches its scenic climax in the REDWOOD EMPIRE OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY. On the way, you can investigate the varied advantages of Humboldt County which invite visitors—equable climate, fertile soil, progressive cities. Send for illustrated booklet Humboldt County Board of Trade Eureka, California.

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