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

## A la Mussolini

Premier Benito Mussolini, fascist dictator of Italy, has ousted five members of his cabinet and appointed himself to four of the portfolios. He is now premier, minister of interior, minister of foreign affairs and minister of corporations.

As Il Duce seems to be the model upon which Julius Meier patterns his official career, we respectfully suggest that the governor follow in his footsteps and instead of appointing yes-men to draw salaries as bureau chiefs, appoint himself and save the state the salaries, thus not only carrying out "my policies" but helping balance the budget.

The governor has tried for a long time to take over the entire powers of the board of control. He controls the board but an unfortunate constitutional provision prevents his firing Hall Hoss and becoming secretary of state, though he overlooked a bet when he appointed his henchman as treasurer, for he could have filled the job himself, perhaps better than it is being done and saved the \$5,400 a year for taxpayers.

Instead of selecting a successor to Leslie Scott as chairman of the highway commission, the governor should appoint himself and thereby avert future friction. He might have appointed himself as the three members of the industrial accident commission and thus obviated discord. And so on down the line. We would then have a harmonious administration.

If Mussolini finds it a comparatively easy task to manage a great nation, it should be child's play for a man of the governor's extraordinary statesmanship to run the state of Oregon—and sometimes we think it is. It would not encroach at all upon the time devoted to "Portland's own store."

A hint to the wise is sufficient. Let us have a real Mussolini while we're about it.

## Burns Forgotten?

Speaking of Robert Burns as a "forgotten poet" the current issue of the Nation says:

Though Burns is doubtless still widely read and widely loved he very rarely figures in any of the current discussions of poetry. A generation ago he would have come prominently to mind in any argument. Indeed, he would probably have stood for the pure poet—for essential poetry or, what would then have been the same thing, for sheer emotion expressing itself in the simplest terms and uncontaminated by metaphysics or learning. But today he is seldom either cited or imitated by poets or critics. Our fathers would not have believed that Burns could come to seem remote from the interests and problems of the twentieth century. And yet it is an indubitable fact that he is remote. It seems absurd to speak of him as a "forgotten poet," but the phrase is almost justified.

The Nation says that inquiry among poets showed that Burns had been pushed aside less because his genius is unrecognized, but because there seems nothing which can be said about him by our contemporaries, though all agreed his verse unique and "almost intolerably beautiful—a kind of miracle which could not be even miraculously repeated. He is too simple, too fresh, too spontaneous, too untroubled in spirit for us."

It all comes to a definition of poetry. If the labored stuff the modern school of mediocrities is turning out is poetry, then Burns is not a poet. There is scarcely a verse of the past decade that anyone remembers or deserves remembrance or that will live a year while Burns after one hundred and fifty years is still the best read and most quoted of the poets—still the supreme artist in words and unequalled song writer.

We have but to scan an anthology of modern verse to realize that the golden age of poetry has passed. The stultified craftsmanship and pathetic straining for novelty and imagery of those who sneer at the Burns, Byrons, Tennysons of the past, not only has little imagery and less emotional appeal, but is unreadable to the vast majority. Poetry is in its decadence.

## That Water Plant Loan

A reading of the Unemployment Relief act as published in the Congressional Record does not shed much light on the issue as to whether its loans are available for the purchase of the Salem water plant. The section governing such loans, reads as follows:

Sec. 201. (a) The Reconstruction Finance Corporation is authorized and empowered—

(1) To make loans to, or contracts with, states, municipalities, and political subdivisions of states, public agencies of states, or municipalities, and of political subdivisions of states, public corporations, boards and commissions, and public municipal instrumentalities of one or more states, to aid in financing projects authorized under federal, state, or municipal law which are self-liquidating in character, such loans or contracts to be made through the purchase of their securities or otherwise, and for such purpose the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is authorized to bid for such securities; Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to prohibit the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, in carrying out the provisions of this paragraph, from purchasing securities having a maturity of more than 10 years;

(2) To make loans to corporations formed wholly for the purpose of providing housing for families of low income, or for reconstruction of slum areas, which are regulated by state or municipal law as to rents, charges, capital, structure, rate of return, and areas and methods of operation, to aid in financing projects by such corporations which are self-liquidating in character;

(3) To make loans to private corporations to aid in carrying out the construction, replacement, or improvement of bridges, tunnels, docks, viaducts, waterworks, canals, and markets, devoted to public use and which are self-liquidating in character.

It is evident that the securing of a loan will be dependent upon the rules and regulations to be adopted by the board, two members of whom have yet to be appointed. What interpretation of the law will be taken is a matter of surmise at present, though apparently the money is only available for projects that furnish new employment and not for acquisition of operating properties.

### CUPID SET RECORD

Detroit (UP)—Dan Cupid has a record batting average in the metropolitan area this year. County Clerk Thomas F. Farrell reports 6,448 marriage applications filed during the first six months of the year, as compared with 6,128 for the same period in 1931.

### SUIT OVER STOLEN VIOLIN

San Antonio, Tex. (UP)—B. Taft and his wife Mildred have filed suit for \$500 insurance on a \$15,000 violin reported stolen from their home here. The violin was made by Ruggieri, in Italy. The Sun Insurance company of London, Eng., is defendant.

## STAGE ACTORS APPEARING IN THEATER HERE

The Dufwin players from Portland will appear at Warner Bros. Capitol Theater Friday, offering "Rough Women." This company closed more than a 52 weeks' engagement in Portland last Sunday and for the next two months will road show throughout the north-west.

The local management has been assured that a second appearance of this company will be made prior to their return to Portland. Every seat in the Capitol theater will be reserved for this engagement and mail orders may be requested at once. The entire cast of the Portland Dufwin players will be used on this road show tour and they will also transport two car loads of scenery with each production presented. One evening performance will be given with the curtain rising at 8:30 o'clock.

Thrills, action, excitement and romance are part of the daily experience of film stars; but now and again a story comes along that intermingles these qualities so closely and so rapidly that even a veteran player must call upon every faculty at his command to handle the role.

Such a story is "Amateur Daddy," Warner Baxter's latest Fox picture showing Friday and Saturday at the Warner Bros. Mainor theater. During its filming, Baxter was called upon to perform no less than eight dramatic episodes, each of which was attended with extreme personal danger.

The cast which Blystone selected to support Baxter in the new film, includes Marian Nixon in the leading feminine role, William Pawley, Rita LaRoy, Joe Hachey, Joan Breckin and others. The film was adapted for the screen from the widely-read novel of Mildred Cram, "Scotch Daddy," tells the delightful story of a confirmed bachelor, a construction engineer by profession, who upon the death of his best friend, in an accident he is partly responsible for, takes it upon himself to care for his family. Instead of watching over one or two as he did in "Daddy Long Legs," Baxter soon finds himself mothering four children.

## Woody To Manage Mellow Moon Hall

F. N. Woody, local business man and veteran dance manager, has taken a long term lease on the Mellow Moon dance hall which is located at the west end of the Marion and Polk county bridge in West Salem.

Mr. Woody has a band of 10 experienced musicians and entertainers which will be known as Woody's Mellow Moon Dance Band. The opening dance will be Saturday night of this week. Mr. Woody has had many varied experiences in the dance business during the past 15 years as a dance manager. He has managed a traveling aggregation of 10 musicians and entertainers last summer taking in five states in the west and middle west and played 54 dances in 10 weeks.

## IVY POISONED DOGS

Detroit (UP)—Seven beagle hounds are under treatment here for poison ivy. They were poisoned in a Canadian field trial while crawling beneath fences covered with the vine.

Harrisburg, Pa. (UP)—Pennsylvania farmers lost \$7,902,000 through farm fires during a one year period, the state bureau of fire protection reported.

## FLOGGING REVIVED IN OHIO



Sentenced to an alternative of twenty lashes in a public flogging or twenty days at hard labor on a bread and water diet for stealing two brothers, William and Jesse Wynn, chose the former. Sheriff John Stevens is applying the lash to the back of Jesse Wynn, who is manacled to the side of the county courthouse at Millersburg, Ohio. About 300 persons watched the whippings, the first in Ohio for more than 50 years.

## COSTUME PARTY ENLIVENS CAMP

Camp Santaly—The girls at camp had another very delightful costume party Tuesday evening about the camp fire. They represented characters in books for the most part. There was Chief Muntomah, an old fashioned girl, Amy in "Little Women," Dixie Lee in "Cimmarron," Scherazade in the "Arabian Nights," Pear Blossom in "Sons" a recent book by Pearl Buck, the Milk Maid who counted her chickens before they were hatched, the Italian Lily, Kaffieh in "Cease Firing," Farmer Brown, Pierette,

the Health Girl, and the Dancing Girl. There were groups also: the Gymnasium Girl of the gay 90's compared with the two modern athletic girls of 1932; the Paul Bunyan family, the giant logger, the wife, and the baby who frequently let out a wail; the nine members of the Paget family in "Mother" by Kathleen Norris, who acted out a scene showing the family getting ready for Julia's wedding.

The evening closed with songs by the group about the fire, and with marshmallow roast which the girls enjoyed.

Japan has three times as many automobiles as in 1925.

## EDITORS MOVE TO LOS ANGELES

San Francisco, July 21 (AP)—After firing a broadside at asserted discrimination against the press by national legislators and hearing condemnation of government in competition with private industry, traveling national editorial association delegates prepared to continue on to Los Angeles from here today.

The three day session of the annual convention in San Francisco was concluded with a legislative committee report which charged "powerful groups of national legislators" with animosity towards newspapers. The charge attributed the animosity to resentment that the press has "faithfully held up a mirror of congressional affairs."

Among the instances of alleged discrimination cited were increased second class postage, refusal to remove government competition in the sale of stamped envelopes and allowing radio broadcasts of lectures while postal regulations prohibit such forms of advertising in newspapers. The delegates were urged by C.

## D. Morris of Chicago, representing the western railway public relations committee, to lead in efforts to remove the government from competition with private industry.

Included in the unfinished business of the convention to be attended to in Los Angeles was a recommendation the association widen its scope and change its name to the National Association of Newspaper Publishers.

## WELTY IS VISITOR

Silverton—Mr. and Mrs. Will Graham have as a house guest for the week, Mrs. Graham's brother, Ellis Welty of Oakland, Calif., who is here to be with his mother, Mrs. Mary Welty. He arrived late Monday afternoon in Salem and plans to leave for home Friday. Mrs. Graham and Welty drove to Deo, Wednesday, to visit a brother, Clifford, whom Welty had not seen for five years. A sister, Mrs. E. S. Ferguson of Lyons, was at the Graham home during the week to be with her brother and mother. Welty is well known here having attended the Silverton high school and graduated from the Salem high school. Mrs. Welty and their small son, Roger, remained at the Oakland home. His mother has not been well for several weeks but is improving.

## PENN FISHERMEN FIGHT WATER DOGS

Williamsport, Pa. (UP)—Fishermen in this section declared war on water dogs, also known as salamanders and hellbenders. The anglers claimed that the salamanders not only eat fish spawn, but also kill larger fish. One caught recently held an eight inch trout and the tails of five smaller fish.

## TO RULE AGENTS

Philadelphia (UP)—The national convention of the National Association of Insurance Agents, to be held here Sept. 19-23, will have an official hostess, to be known as Miss Insurance. She will be selected in a national contest in which intelligence, tact and beauty will be equally rated.

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