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

Decline of a Railroad

An interesting study in the decline and death of railroad passenger traffic is presented by the table of statistics compiled by R. H. Crozier, general passenger agent of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle railway, covering the traffic record of the Oregon Electric for the period 1920-1932, which follows:

OREGON ELECTRIC PATRONAGE				
	Number	Revenue	Passenger	Train Miles
	Passengers			
1920	1,686,688	\$890,693	701,019	
1925	953,382	408,354	733,962	
1929	582,443	194,269	658,299	
1931	233,484	64,985	337,159	
1932	59,374	17,313	163,584	
COMPARISONS WITH 1920				
1925 Increase	733,706	482,339	32,943	
Decrease	43.8	54.2	4.7	
1929 Increase	1,104,255	696,424	42,720	
Decrease	65.4	78.2	6.1	
1931 Increase	1,453,204	825,708	343,860	
Decrease	86.2	92.7	49.1	
1932 Increase	1,637,314	873,380	537,435	
Decrease	99.5	98.1	76.6	

During this 10 year period 1920-9 inclusive, in spite of declining patronage a generous plan of train service was maintained at a heavy financial loss. The train miles were reduced only 6.1 percent while the number of revenue passengers declined 65.4 percent and the passenger revenue 78.2 percent. It was not until after 1929 the train schedule was substantially reduced, and even in 1931 the train mileage had declined less than 50 percent while the number of passengers had declined 86.2 percent the revenue 92.7 percent.

If the communities served by a railroad refuse to patronize it, if as in the case of the Oregon Electric, there is a decrease of 96.5 percent in passengers and 98.1 percent in passenger revenue, the company has no other alternative but to discontinue service, and the payrolls that go with it, and eventually the taxes contributed to local and state government, which will have to be replaced by other taxation. The communities as well as the taxpayers, are the real losers by the decline of the railroads.

President and Pensions

President Roosevelt's revision of veterans' compensation is properly designed to correct injustices and assist those whose disability is based on service—not those whose disability was incurred in civil life since the war. The revision will increase the outlay for veterans about \$60,000,000, as compared with the \$170,000,000 increase demanded by the senate—which would necessitate additional taxation to keep the budget balanced.

To judge by the speeches in congress of those opposing the president's reorganization of veteran expenditures, Mr. Roosevelt seems a ruthless reformer, who would deprive hundreds of thousands of indigent but deserving heroes of their only sustenance and send them to the breadlines. But this is far from the facts. The president is not trying to pauperize deserving veterans, only seeking to get a lot of parasites off the pension rolls, whose disabilities had no connection with army service.

Mr. Roosevelt seeks the reform of abuses grafted onto our pension laws by the political pressure of veteran organizations and lobbies. We have been paying benefits to more than 1,500,000 persons of over a billion dollars a year which the treasury did not have. We were larding out this money indiscriminately to those injured in civil life as well as those whose disabilities were incurred in military service; in many cases giving the most money to the heroes of peace at the expense of those of war.

The breast beaters of congress are not interested so much in the battle-scarred veterans as in trying to get something for the veteran who was not battle-scarred, to guarantee the returned soldier against the vicissitudes of civil life by a system of special favors paid for by taxpayers in return for political support.

If the treasury is to be protected against graft and abuses, and bankruptcy as well, those whose disabilities arise in civil life must be cut off the pension rolls—and this is what the president proposes.

As Indiana Goes—

Bishop James Cannon, Jr., who led the anti-repeal fight in Indiana, declared just before the polls closed for the election of delegates to a constitutional convention to vote on prohibition repeal yesterday: "If we win in Indiana we will have a 50-50 chance to prevent national repeal." But Indiana voted better than two to one for repeal and thus became the tenth state to vote for an end of the dry regime.

The wet victory in Indiana is the more remarkable because Indiana has ranked among the driest of states, had the most drastic prohibition laws of any of the states, has been completely dominated by the Anti-Saloon League in alliance with the Ku Klux Klan, and because the machinery of the convention was so set up and gerrymandered that it gave the dries all possible opportunity to elect anti-repeal candidates and throw control to the small rural counties. The wets could have rolled up an enormous majority of repeal votes and yet lost control of the convention.

The size of the majorities for repeal being rolled up in every state so far voting on the question, four to one in Illinois, Delaware, and Wisconsin, seven to one in Rhode Island and Nevada, three to one in Michigan, ought to convince the most skeptical of the extent of the popular revolt against the hypocrisy and futility of prohibition.

SERVICES ARE CONDUCTED

Falls City—Rev. Mead and party from Salem held services at the Oakhurst schoolhouse near here Sunday afternoon and Sunday night at the Christian church, leaving the same night for their home near Salem.

Falls City—Mrs. Jessie Morsen, a former school teacher here, came for the week-end from Portland to visit old friends.

DUE FROM ISLANDS

Silverton—Miss Miriam Sylvester, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Sylvester plans to reach Victoria, B. C., June 15, on her way home from the Hawaiian islands where she has been teaching school for a number of terms. She will return to the same work in the fall. She will attend the N. E. A. which meets in Chicago during her summer vacation.

LONE AIRMAN AHEAD OF RECORD TIME IN DASH AROUND THE WORLD



The Century of Progress, high-winged monoplane, as it soared away from Floyd Bennett field, New York, with James Mattern (right), Texas aviator, at the controls. Mattern was out to beat the globe girding record of Wiley Post and Harold Gatty. In his flight, to Moscow, he was approximately two hours ahead of the previous record and had already broken the long distance solo mark by making the 4500 mile hop from New York to Oslo without stopping. The dotted line on the map shows his route to Moscow while the heavy black line is his proposed line of flight to New York. (Associated Press Photos)

The National Whirligig

By PAUL MALLON

Washington — The hungry politicians have quit grumbling to themselves and have started demanding action from the President in person. They have been trooping into the White House quietly the last ten days buzzing in Mr. Roosevelt's ear that they need a New Deal too. They do not like the way some cabinet officers are keeping Republicans in preference to jobless Democrats. They have pointed out unflinchingly you cannot build a political organization that way.

The President has indicated he will seek to appease their hunger. They expect manna shortly.

The Cabinet officer they are shooting at particularly is Interior Secretary Ickes. He is running his department as a one-man show. He listened to reason from Postmaster General Farley and others on selecting his assistants. But he has been resisting pressure on the smaller jobs in a way which is very annoying.

What is worse he told a politician: "If you want to remove a man you must say something more than that he is a Republican."

You can imagine what a big hit a statement like that made with the Democratic office-seekers.

Most of the trouble is due to a rather slipshod method of testing the political qualifications of appointees.

The Public Works heads gave a job to a Michigan Republican who was defeated in an election out there very recently.

A mild old Democrat was dropped from service as public man for a government department. He was replaced by an able man who happens to have served once as a public man for the Republican National Committee.

As a result of these breaks an order has been issued to exercise more care and political scrutiny in the selection of men hereafter.

The Helvering boys privately blame confirmation troubles on the former Hooverite, Henry Allen. They claim they saw Allen's handwriting in the objections lodged against the new Internal Revenue Commissioner by Senator Hastings.

It is more than a supposition that the income tax returns of all Helvering opponents will be closely scrutinized when he gets in.

They tell an inside story of what happened to an up-and-coming young Democrat from the West. He was slated to be assistant Indian Commissioner and came here to take over the job. The boys introduced him to Ickes and others. Ickes took him to lunch. Afterward he was told the appointment could not be made that day.

The same thing was told him each day for several weeks. Being a bright young man he figured he was getting a run-around and demanded an explanation. He got it. It was:

"You have no sense of social justice toward the American Indian."

The plight of the political hunger marchers got so bad two weeks ago they started building bonfires around the country. The star they set up was described by one of them as a "hullabaloo." It sounded like that to the White House too. No public mention was made of the matter.

What started them off particularly was the transfer of 3,200 good jobs from the R. F. C. to Henry Morgenthau's farm outfit. Morgenthau passed the word around there would be no changes in this regard.

William Wallace Graham

Announces a Summer Class of Six Weeks

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PROTEST SURVEY OF PROPOSED ROAD

Remonstrance was filed this morning with the county court by Jay Bleakney and others of the South Silver Falls section protesting against the survey of a side road asked by Charles Level and others in an earlier petition filed. The side road survey as proposed was to start from the south line of the DeSantis strawberry farm, run westerly to market road No. 45, and thence east along the line of the DeSantis place. The remonstrators stated that the proposed survey would take the road over some heavy grades.

In turn it was proposed that the survey follow a creek along what was termed a nice easy grade. It is understood the court will reject the survey remonstrance against because of the heavy grades.



LUX for Underthings

2 For 1 SHOE SALE

No catch to this sale. We are actually going to sell you one pair of shoes and give you a second pair free. We have a tremendous stock of summer shoes on hand which we must dispose of before the season is over. We have selected 3000 pairs of these shoes which we are going to sacrifice at two pair for the price of one; \$2.95 and \$3.95 and an extra pair free. If you can't use two pair bring a friend along and split the cost. Shoes are going up, now is the time to buy.

Sale Starts at 9 a.m. Thursday, June 8th.

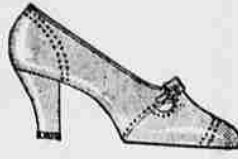


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