

Capital Journal

Salem, Oregon
Established March 1, 1885
An Independent Newspaper Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday
at 136 S Commercial Street Telephone 4681 News 4882
GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Publisher
FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
AND THE UNITED PRESS

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By carrier—10 cents a week; 46 cents a month; \$3 a year in advance.
By mail in Marion, Polk, Linn and Yamhill counties, one month 50 cents; 3 months \$1.25; 6 months \$2.25; 1 year \$4.00. Elsewhere 50 cents a month; 6 months \$2.75; \$5.00 a year in advance.

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

Shutting Out Competition

In calling a special meeting of the city council, upon only two days' notice, for the purpose of engaging engineers to prepare detailed plans and specifications for the proposed \$2,500,000 municipal water system, a job which will pay perhaps as much as \$125,000, city officials are treading upon precarious ground. In the public eye they at least expose themselves to the suspicion of sympathy with the promotional practices of one firm of engineers who, it is suspected, have been selfishly active throughout the entire movement for a publicly owned and operated water works.

By such hasty action they raise the bars against open competition among engineers for the job, making it practically impossible for other engineering firms to submit intelligent proposals. Even with due notice and adequate time in which to investigate the project competing engineers stand at a disadvantage with the firm of Baar & Cunningham, who have all of the necessary data and records in their hands.

Baar & Cunningham have made two appraisals of the water distributing system of the Oregon-Washington company, and are in possession of all of the maps and data pertaining to it. It was they who on their own initiative, or at the instigation of sponsors for the charter amendment authorizing acquisition of a municipal plant prepared the tentative plans for a supply system to bring water from the Little North Fork of the Santiam river. They are at present employed by the city in preparing preliminary plans for a city distributing network and a supply system upon which the PWA project is contemplated.

If with all of these advantages Baar & Cunningham are not willing to bid in open competition for the job there is something wrong. There is no valid reason why they should object, nor have they done so. In the engineering profession they are a reputable firm. But there are other reputable firms and just as competent, whom in the public interest should be given a fair and equal opportunity to bid.

If (as Mayor McKay, City Attorney Kowitz and members of the council assert) District Engineer Hockley of the PWA has issued the ultimatum for speed in hiring the engineers he should modify that order to allow the city at least a week to acquaint all engineers with the proposal and to properly invite their bids. He should not be a party to any procedure tainted with even a suspicion of unfair practices or even hinting at collusion.

True, the object of the PWA is to put idle men to work and as rapidly as possible, but there is no occasion for such unseemly haste as is evidenced here. The city has not yet been officially notified of its allocation of funds, or the conditions upon which they are allocated; it does not yet know whether it is to purchase the distributing system of the private company or build a new one—there may be no need for distributing system plans; and the city has not yet filed or even completed its preliminary plans.

Back to Normalcy

Congress is getting back to normalcy and reverting to its customary tactics of raiding the treasury for the benefit of special groups whose votes are desired for re-election by congressmen.

A few days ago the senate cut the heart out of the Roosevelt economy and recovery program and upset hope of a balanced budget by voting restoration of employees salary slashes and veterans' benefits at a cost of \$354,000,000. Yesterday the house, by a vote of 295 to 125, voted for immediate payment of \$2,200,000,000 bonus to veterans in paper money, despite the president's protests.

Members of both houses knew vetoes await the bills, but that made no difference. The votes and speeches were for home consumption to secure votes for those facing re-election, a third of the senate and the entire house. The action of the house was particularly inexcusable as it knows the senate will defeat the inflationary bonus bill and hence it was simply grandstand play. Even the veterans lobby did not press the bonus bill—it contented itself with seeking increased benefits. The senate republicans made a partisan issue on the economy bill and all those senators who have been clamoring for economy and censuring expenditures, united to vote away as gifts and bonuses hundreds of millions of the public monies. So much for senatorial ethics.

What these congressmen fail to comprehend is that Roosevelt will be the issue at the coming election and that those who refuse to support the president will lose far more votes among the people than special groups, beneficiaries of their defiance, can swing to them.

Index of Improvement

The sharp rise in income tax collections with the approach of the March 15 deadline, is a sure index of business improvement. The government's total income from July 1, the start of the current fiscal year amounts to \$2,001,959,165 against \$1,293,522,909 in the corresponding period of last year.

Income tax collections so far this month have risen to \$24,614,681 from \$10,272,698 in the corresponding period last year. Total revenue in the first 10 days of March was \$116,347,929, or more than double the \$43,319,712 collections in the first 10 days of March, 1933.

Secretary of Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., reports income tax collections in many cases are above earlier estimates. Further heavy collections are anticipated in the next few days. Income tax collections for the fiscal year to date amounted to \$382,822,669, against \$393,612,341 for last year.

A similar proportion of increase in payments is reported by the Oregon tax commission for this state, while tax collecting bodies report a heavier percentage of taxes paid so far this year than for the corresponding periods of the last three years. Evidently the cash discount is in a fair way to end tax delinquency, coupled with the federal loan program.

Brooks—The Methodist Ladies' Aid society will meet in the church Thursday afternoon with the president, Mrs. William Schafer in charge.

Lyons—Mr. and Mrs. Guy Malnes spent the week-end with his mother, Mrs. Fannie Malnes in Cottage Grove. Mrs. Malnes returned home with her for a visit.

News Behind The News

Copyright, 1934, by Paul Mallon.

Washington, D. C., March 13.—The superb skill of Attorney-General Cummings in handling the Mellon-Lamont-Walker-Sidlo income tax cases is the current sensation of the inner political world.

The Lamont case first developed last June 9, when the Morgan partner publicly testified he sold later the Mellon case has been hanging fire for more than six months. The Jimmy Walker facts date back to the pre-Roosevelt era when his financial operations were disclosed by the Seabury investigation.

Nobody knows when the Sidlo matter originated. Finding it at all was a hard job. Mr. Sidlo is a well-known and respected citizen, but he hardly rates politically or financially with Messrs. Mellon, Lamont and Jimmy Walker.

The one understandable explanation of how Mr. Sidlo got into such choice company is that he is allied with a chain of liberal newspapers which have been howling for the scalps of—yes, Messrs. Mellon, Lamont and Walker.

The cases all started at different times a month or two ago, but they all came off the department of justice mimeograph machine in the same handout—just these four:

Mr. Mellon, the arch-republican. Mr. Lamont, the Wall-streeter. Mr. Walker, the democrat (a splendid choice).

Mr. Sidlo, the liberal. The only thing which kept it from being perfectly balanced was the failure to include a socialist and a communist. They probably had to be left out because none of them has enough money to pay income taxes.

The timing was even more exquisite.

Aside from the fact that the old cases phenomenally came to fruition simultaneously, the announcement was made just four days before the next income tax payments were due.

And, wonder of wonders, it came on the Sunday which most of the income taxpayers had set aside to work out their returns. (The Sunday papers have more circulation than the week-dailies.)

The psychology of that move will be apparent when the returns are counted after Thursday. With Messrs. Mellon, Lamont, Walker and Sidlo facing prosecution for not being liberal with their government, the other few million taxpayers certainly could not afford to take any chances.

Only skeptics will suspect that this peculiar political balance and this psychological timing in Mr. Cummings' brilliant swing were intentional.

Politics and psychology have nothing to do with justice. At least they should not. It is just a coincidence, possibly strange and unusual, but, nevertheless, a coincidence.

The anti-administration gang can be expected to interpret it as a put-up job. They may point out that Mr. Cummings has been fully as brilliant in politics as in law. They may remark the fact that the attorney-general was chairman of the democratic national committee for five years and an official of every national convention for the last three decades.

If they do, his friends can point out that he was state attorney for Fairfield county, Connecticut, for ten years.

Nevertheless, all true political artists know real art when they see it.

The Lindbergh reconciliation was not quite in the class with the Cummings masterpiece. Colonel Lindbergh was called to

FOUR DIE IN ILLINOIS CRASH OF ICE-COATED PLANE



Four persons were killed near Petersburg, Ill., when a St. Louis-to-Chicago American Airways plane crashed at night in a blinding blizzard. This was the wreckage of the ice-coated monoplane in a farm field. (Associated Press Photo)

Washington by War Secretary Dern. On his arrival the air ace managed to escape pursuing news photographers, as is his custom. But next day, Dern invited the photographers in to take pictures of himself with Lindbergh, smiling and laughing at each other, as if they were old pals.

The time was correct. The pictures appeared in most newspapers next morning alongside Mr. Roosevelt's new air mail instructions to Dern.

Quite a social occasion was made of the reconciliation also. The Lindbergh family had lunch with the Dern family. Afterward Dern issued a public statement that he considered Lindbergh as "our foremost authority on aviation questions."

Dern also let it be known that he and Lindbergh had not merely talked to each other, but that they had talked "man to man."

Forum

Contributions to this column must be confined to 300 words and signed by writer.

To the Editor: Re your editorial "He Created Opportunity" in March 8 issue of your paper, we as citizens of Mill City most emphatically repudiate it. In that you used the term "remote" applying to our city, small to be sure, but far from being "remote," instead very pronounced especially to your paper and the city of Salem—The Capital Journal is very well represented as are Salem merchants very consistently justified, we therefore ask for constructive publicity.

We want you to know as well as all your readers that Mill City is on the map and has many assets that other communities cannot boast. If you doubt this ask us. Mill City Junior Woman's Club. We ask and know you will correct error in question by publication of above letter.

By MRS. E. S. CARTER, Mill City, 3-12-34.

Scotts Mills—Mrs. Clyde Thomas and two sons visited over Saturday evening and Sunday at the home of her sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Hirtzel. Other Sunday dinner guests at the Hirtzel home were Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Magee and family.

JUNGLE DRAMA FILM OFFERED

Noted for providing the ultimate in screen entertainment, Cecil B. DeMille scores another big hit with his latest Paramount picture, "Four Frightened People," playing at the Elmore theater Wednesday and Thursday.

From the time the four principals, two men and two women, escape from a Dutch steamer on which bubonic plague has broken out and start their journey to civilization through the Malay jungles, there is not a moment in the picture when interest wanes. Their gradual revision to the primitive provides some highly novel situations.

Claudette Colbert is outstanding with one of the most colorful roles of her career, that of a prudish school teacher whom the two men consider in their way. When the jungle causes her to blossom into a wild, beautiful creature, the men start fighting over her.

Herbert Marshall and William Gargan give splendid performances as the marooned rubber chemist and newspaper correspondent who fight over Claudette's charms, while Mary Boland, in a deft comedy characterization, walks away with many of the honors of the picture. Leo Carrillo displayed splendid ability in the role of a half caste guide.

Wells and Grimps Hosts for Evening

Hubbard—Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Wells and Mr. and Mrs. George Grimps were joint hosts at an evening of bridge at the Wells home Saturday. In the play Mrs. Waldo Brown made the high score for the women and L. A. Braden for the men with Mrs. Julius Stauffer and C. H. Cleaver second high. In play during the evening were Mr. and Mrs. Elton, McLaughlin, Mr. and Mrs. Julius Stauffer, Mr. and Mrs.

LUCKY TIGER Hair Dressing

Corrects Dry Scalp
Don't tolerate dry, itching scalp. Lucky Tiger Dressing supplies what nature lacks and enables you to dress usually late in any style. Cures itching and dandruff.

84 WOMEN ARE ADMITTED TO PRACTICE LAW

Eighty-four women have been admitted to the Oregon bar since April, 1886, records of the supreme court showed today.

In 1885 a special session of the state legislature passed a law providing, "Hereafter women shall be admitted to the practice of law as attorneys in the courts of this state upon the same terms and conditions as men."

Records of Arthur Benson, clerk of the supreme court, reveal that Mrs. Mary A. Leonard was the first woman admitted to the bar in Oregon, April 13, 1886. The following year Miss E. M. Howard gained membership in the legal profession. The earliest record of any woman practicing law in the United States shows Myra Bradwell was admitted to the Illinois bar in 1869.

Many of Oregon's women attorneys have become prominent leaders in their profession. Some of them have been elected or appointed prosecuting city attorneys. Others have been elected to state legislative seats.

Four women, Lorraine Morrow Conlee, Melvina Halstrom, Mercia Letton and Anna Christine Moe, all of Portland, passed the bar examinations held last July 11 and 12.

Supreme court justices have become accustomed to hearing cases argued by women. Dorothy McCullough Lee, state senator; Mrs. Wilmetta McElroy, deputy city attorney of Portland; Manche Irene Langley, Portland; Mabel Welborn McInturff, Marshfield; and Celia Gavin, city attorney of The Dalles, have conducted a number of cases before the high court.

Other women engaged in active practice include: Mrs. Floy Hanna.

3 Doses of Foley's Loosens Cough

Proof!
"I have a severe cough, and after taking three doses of Foley's Loosens Cough, I feel much better. I can breathe freely and my chest is clear."—J. L. Kirkpatrick, 1012 S. Commercial.

HONEY TAR
Foley's Loosens Cough is a powerful cough medicine. It loosens the phlegm, soothes the throat, and breaks up the cough. It is a sure cure for all kinds of coughs, whether dry or wet, and it is safe for all ages.

Astoria: Nellie Dickey, Ashland: Katherine Stewart and Amelia C. Metzger, Eugene: Jane Louise Ayers and Christine Burdick Goble, Klamath Falls: Helen Louise Crosby, Alice H. Page and Hannah Martin, Salem: Dora W. Stone, Oregon City: Mrs. Johanna H. G. Lane, Manzanita: and Violet A. Clements All, Lida N. O'Bryan and Mary Jane Spurling, Portland.

DISPLAYING DAFFODILS

Woodburn—The regular meeting of the Woodburn Garden club will be held Tuesday evening at the library club rooms. One of the features of the evening will be a daffodil display from Fair Oaks Bulb gardens, owned by Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Butterfield. There will also be a general discussion on problems of interest. All flower lovers are invited.

Melham—Miss Vertia Title, who is a matron at the blind school at Salem was a week-end visitor at the Floyd Monroe home. Miss Title is a former teacher of the public schools here.

Doctors Give Creosote For Chest Colds

For many years our best doctors have prescribed creosote in some form for coughs, colds and bronchitis, knowing how dangerous it is to let them hang on.

Creosolium with creosote and six other highly important medicinal elements, quickly and effectively stops coughs and colds that otherwise might lead to serious trouble.

Creosolium is powerful in the treatment of colds and coughs, yet it is absolutely harmless and is pleasant to take. Your own druggist guarantees Creosolium by refunding your money if you are not relieved after taking Creosolium as directed. Beware the cough or cold that hangs on. Always keep Creosolium on hand for instant use. (Adv.)

Ask Mother—She Knows

Mother took this medicine before and after the babies came. It gave her more strength and energy when she was nervous and run-down. Keep her on the job all through the Change. No wonder she recommends it.

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We believe you will say the same when you see and hear

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79¢ pair

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Shades such as... Light Gunmetal... Grey Taupe... Dark Taupe... Black Brown... Dark Gunmetal... Medium Taupe.

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