

Capital Journal

Salem, Oregon ESTABLISHED MARCH 1, 1888

An Independent Newspaper Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday at 444 Chemeketa Street. Telephone—Business Office 3571 News Room 3572; Society Editor 3573

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; 45 cents a month; \$5.00 a year in advance BY MAIL in Marion, Polk, Linn, Yamhill, Benton, Clackamas and Lincoln counties: One month 50 cents; 3 months \$1.25; 6 months \$2.25; 1 year \$4.00 Elsewhere 40 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."

Seek Return of Saloons

Disguised as the Home Rule League, Inc., of Oregon, the whiskey, beer and wine interests have launched their long anticipated attack upon the state liquor control act with the filing of two initiative petitions. One would repeal the present Knox law under which the state operates a monopoly in the sale of hard liquors and substitute a system of licensing private dealers, and the other would amend the constitution to permit incorporated cities to license, tax, regulate or prohibit the retail sale of alcoholic beverages.

The proposals are cleverly drawn to appeal to all elements which for selfish reasons oppose the existing system of sale and control.

There is a sop to the advocates of municipal licensing for revenue in the constitutional amendment—a play for the support of such organizations and individuals as comprise the state league of city officials, which has made several futile efforts in the legislature to secure a portion of the liquor tax money. The cities now get 30 cents a gallon on all beer sold.

There is a bid for the assistance of brewers and beer dealers in the provision which would reduce the tax on malt beverages from \$1.30 to 62 cents, and an even more attractive invitation to dispensers of beer to join the movement which would substitute loose and easily manipulated local control for the stricter state supervision and enforcement now existing.

To attract the wine dealers and their friends the tax on this type of beverage would be reduced to 5 cents a gallon, whereas the state now collects 12 1/2 cents a gallon on naturally fermented wines and 30 cents a gallon on fortified wines. On bottled wines an ad valorem tax of 10 percent on naturally fermented and 15 percent on fortified is imposed.

The boldest deception attempted in the proposal, however, is the obvious effort to lead those prejudiced against hard liquors to believe that a heavier tax would be imposed upon whiskey and like drinks by levying an assessment of 60 cents a gallon on distilled liquors. True, the state does not now collect any direct tax on hard liquors but in its monopoly of sales through state stores and agencies realizes a far greater profit than would accrue the suggested tax rate.

The net profit on the cheapest grade of whiskey handled by the liquor commission is 30 percent of the retail price, or about \$1.41 cents a gallon—nearly two and a half times the amount of the suggested tax.

Resort is also made to the old political device of stipulating that the money collected shall be directly applied to the reduction of property taxes. The fact that present revenues from liquor control operations go to relief purposes, which otherwise would have to be financed through some form of direct taxation, is conveniently forgotten.

Any such program would result in the return of the saloon and its attendant evils and eventually prohibition.

Penalizing Industry

The Doernbecher Manufacturing company, said to have the largest industrial payroll in Oregon, which was found guilty of violating the Portland city smoke density ordinance, announces that the company's business will be liquidated and the furniture factory established in another state as a result of the court's finding. No penalty was imposed so as to give the company time to modernize the plant so the smoke density will not be in excess of that allowed by the law.

There are of course two sides to the case. Modern smoke consumers are not very costly and pay for themselves in the long run in salvage of fuel as the paper mill at Salem demonstrated when it eliminated its smoke and cinder nuisance. And the public health must be placed above factory profits. It is probable that the Doernbecher company is merely utilizing this pretext in order to escape the high taxes imposed in Oregon, especially on factories within city limits, to take advantage of the tax free proposals and site subsidies offered in Washington.

At the same time it should be a warning against the efforts to penalize Oregon industries, for there are many other states with all kinds of inducements, seeking to secure them. The efforts of the Columbia river fishermen's union to close Salem industries and others along the river on the pretext that they are polluting the Willamette and hence destroying salmon is typical of the treatment accorded Oregon industry.

No salmon spawn in the lower Willamette and the ascent to the spawning beds is made at a time of high water, when pollution is infinitesimal. There is greater pollution from municipal sewers than all the industries combined. The annual output of industries attacked is greater than the value of the entire Columbia river fish industry, and their payrolls greater. And there is no proof of their destruction of salmon.

These fishermen are a contentious, greedy, lawless outfit, and when they are not warring between themselves and trying to put each other out of business by legislative and initiative bills, or trying to ruin their own industry by disastrous strikes, they are attempting to drive established industry out of Oregon.

Scents a Polical Plot

Former Governor Oswald West says that he looks upon Dr. Laughlin's proposal to chloroform the feeble-minded "as a republican political trick to deprive us of about one-third of the democratic majority we had in the house of representatives at the last session of the legislature."

Governor Martin, who approved the Laughlin proposal probably figured its effects on the senate, of whose members he has on diverse occasions forcibly expressed his opinions. Anyway it would effect a purging of both houses irrespective of parties.

Enforcement of any such program would drastically cut the list of candidates at the primaries and eliminate the cluttering of the ballot with the self-starters who don't know what it's all about and whose only qualification for public office is their megalomania. "Tis a consummation devoutly to be wished."

Even this however, would not purify politics—the real and potential crooks and demagogues as well as the boneheads would remain in the running and secure public office on impossible promises and utopian rainbow chasing.

Life's Big Moments



SALVAGING THE TRASH HEAP THAT WAS ALWAYS LEFT BEHIND WHEN NEIGHBORS MOVED AWAY.

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

Washington, March 21—President Roosevelt, before leaving for Florida, said he had high hopes that his housing advisers would have a plan when he returned. This was merely a polite cover-up for the fact, which will be evident shortly, that the housing plan has blown up.

What Mr. Roosevelt would have said, if he had spoken his mind, is something like this: The inability of any two of his housing experts to agree on anything has convinced him that nothing important can be attempted along that line. Furthermore, he has wasted so much time on the subject that he hopes that no one will mention it to him soon again, and as for the experts—

It is generally understood within the White House coterie that the president will play a new game, called "housing-expert", on his Florida fishing trip. He will name each month after one of his experts and club it lustily on the head as it is hauled into the boat.

Suspicious—The experts cannot even agree on why they cannot agree. They seem to think it is a matter of personalities. Each one suspects all the others of working for subversive influences. That is, they suspect each other of working for mortgage bankers trying to block the program, or for certain building groups with political influence trying to promote certain phases of it selfishly.

They are probably just a little bit right in their suspicions of each other. But the basic reason for the futility of the idea, although they will deny it, seems to be this:

All schemes which have been analyzed and considered contain such rank discriminations against property holders that they are economically hazardous.

Dangers—The foremost effect of any kind of housing, public or private, is the shifting of real estate values. These cannot be avoided. If you build homes, you take tenants away from localities where they are now paying rent. You deprive property owners and mortgage holders there of their values. By your choice of a new housing locality, you may boost the value of property owners there.

It is all right for private realtors to do such things constantly, but when the government starts doing it on a national scale, a constitutional as well as an economic question arises.

There is also some question whether the cheaply constructed low cost homes would last as long as their mortgages. Likewise, some doubt whether persons attracted to such homes would be good long term risks.

At least these were the whispered considerations which dominated Mr. Roosevelt's recent series of ineffective housing conferences. They explain why the new dealers cannot have a program, although they consider one highly desirable as campaign ballyhoo.

Effect—What they will probably do now is this: continue the existing law with reference to renovations for six months with some liberalization. Continue the government guarantee mortgage system indefinitely without any further liberalization.

Some renewed effort may be made in reference to low cost housing in the near future, but the jig has been up, as far as they are concerned, since Mr. Morgenthau's real estate mortgage ally, Peter Grimm, tossed his hands in the air and returned to New York last week.

TYPHOID FOUGHT IN FLOOD AREA

Wheeling, W. Va., March 21 (AP)—Innoculation against typhoid was completed yesterday afternoon among 20,000 refugees as the rampaging Ohio river roared to its crest.

The river, which claimed 16 lives last night and today, stood at 53 1/2 feet.

Several hundred families still were marooned. As homeless men, women and children were herded into the big market auditorium, schools, churches and every unroofed public building, Dr. R. M. Pedicord, city-county health commissioner, issued this warning:

"An epidemic of disease will follow the flood."

Working under his direction were 100 nurses, more than a score of physicians and a large number of volunteers. There was a shortage of serum.

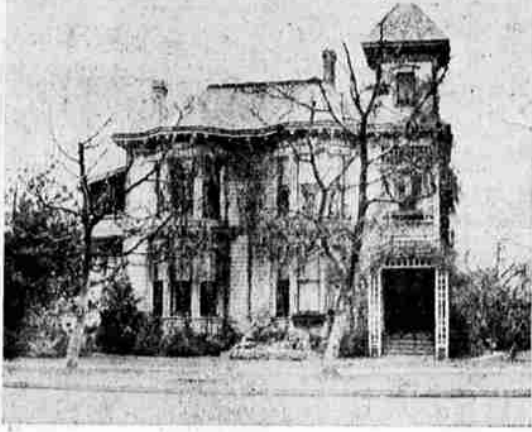
The food supply was sufficient to last several days, officials indicated, but they urged great care in its preparation. Dr. Pedicord called upon every person able to cook, man or woman or child, to report at the auditorium.

Public donations of money and food were solicited.

MRS. BLACKERBY HOME Silverton—Mrs. A. F. Blackerby recently returned from a three-months' visit in Washington. She was at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Meva F. Silver at Onak, and with another daughter, Mrs. R. H. Bruce of Enumelaw, during that time.

EDWARD K. PIASECKI.

LANDMARK RECALLS GAY NINETIES HERE



By E. B. FLETCHER

A Salem landmark worthy of note is at 340 North Liberty street, just north of the Christian Science church. It has brick foundation, is two-story, four tripartite bay windows and square cupola on the southwest corner.

There are four large walnut trees along the parking, and an outstanding feature of the lawn for these 50 years has been the rockery, once used as a fountain base, but now as a fish pond. The floor, at the landing of the front steps, is laid with tile of curious patterns.

For many years this was the home of William England and his wife, Olive Stanton England. William England was born in Illinois in 1829. He crossed the plains to Oregon in 1852 and settled at Salem.

Working as a carpenter, he saved his money and began a brokerage business at Salem. In 1890 he formed a partnership with George Williams, and they organized the bank of Williams and England. About five years after this, the State Insurance company went broke, and the bank of Williams and England failed with it.

Olive Stanton was of the Alfred Stanton family. After finishing Willamette university she was known as a writer and an artist of ability. She was Mrs. Olive Enright after Mr. England's death about the year 1900. The only child of William and Olive England was Eugene England, whose death was eight or ten years prior to that of his father.

About the time of the opening of the World war the England property was on sale at \$11,000. It was purchased by the C. P. Bishop family. They did extensive improving and remodeling during the years while they resided there.

It is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pratt. Mrs. Pratt was a beneficiary in the estate of Mrs. Stanwick Pratt of Modesto, Calif.

The Fireside Pulpit

REV. E. S. HAMMOND

Judge not, that ye be not judged. Matt. 7:1.

I once knew a gentleman who was subject to ungovernable outbursts of temper. He would fly into a raging passion upon very slight provocation, and seem entirely beside himself. After one of these outbreaks he would take to his bed, and his indisposition was no make-believe either. He was genuinely sick. Before very long he died of heart trouble. All the time he was having these torrential outbursts his heart was failing to do its work. His blood was not purified as it should have been, and this unpurified blood was carrying poison through his whole system. When a man's brain is filled with poisoned blood, he cannot be blamed nor reasonable. Some people blamed this good man severely, and some laughed at him. But he was as much to be pitied as a fever patient who is out of his head.

I think we are slow to learn the great truth that it takes more knowledge than we possess to judge our neighbors rightly.

One evening a religious worker was talking to a crowd in the slum district of one of our cities, when a man stepped up to him and said, "Say, Mister, if you had been born and lived all your life down here where we are, would you be talking to us the way you are now?" The speaker had no answer to that question.

I once heard Saukey sing: "When the mists have rolled in—splendor From the valleys and the hills, And the sunshine, warm and tender, Falls in kisses on the rills, We shall read love's shining letter In the rainbow of the spray; We shall know each other better When the mists have rolled away."

DR. CURTIS EGBERT DIES AT OLYMPIA

Olympia, March 21 (AP)—Pneumonia caused the death here Thursday of Dr. Curtis Egbert, 60, Olympia dentist.

Born in Fort Collins, Colo., Dr. Egbert came west in an immigrant train with his parents when he was only three years old. The family settled in the Grand Ronde valley in eastern Oregon and young Egbert was a member of the first graduating class of The Dalles high school.

After graduation from the Portland Dental college in 1902, Dr. Egbert came to Olympia and has practiced his profession here since then. Surviving are his widow, a son and a daughter.

LORE ENRICHED ON WASHINGTON

Penn Yan, N. Y., March 21 (AP)—George Washington, it develops, had difficulty in obtaining proper fitting trousers, according to a letter written by Harry Bennett, of Dundee, Yates county.

The letter, written by Washington, on Nov. 5, 1782, was addressed simply and was sent from Newburgh. It speaks for itself:

"Dear Sir—By Doctor Gregg I send you \$6.92, which appears to be the balance due you for your lands. I pray you get me made, my measure enclosed, a pair of the nicest and best leather breeches.

"I know not at this time who is esteemed the most celebrated maker or I would not trouble you with so small a matter. Formerly there was a person called 'I think the Carabus, by which my very neat breeches were made.

"Whether they are yet to be had I know not, neither do I know the price of leather breeches at this day but if the money sent not sufficient, the deficiency shall be paid on demand.

"Yours, (Signed) 'G. Washington.' Bennett came into possession of the letter through finding an old Bible history book in a home he was cleaning of rubbish. Knowing that his wife would prize the Bible book he took it home.

That was in 1918. For years the book remained in the Bennett home. Only recently he picked it up and the letter dropped out.

GRAND MASTER VISITS Scotts Mills—Butte lodge No. 126, I. O. O. F., received an official visit from the grand master, F. M. Sexton of The Dalles at the last meeting.

Other visitors were Grand Marshal Joe Eckley of Portland, Special Deputy Grand Master George Bush of Silverton, also Jack Riches and L. Davenport of Silverton, and Pomory of Monitor. Following lodge and the social hour, refreshments were served.

MRS. BERNING ILL. Mt. Angel—Sister M. Alexandria, O. S. B. of the Christie Indian school at Kankavik, B. C., is visiting at the home of her mother, Mrs. Mary Berning, who is seriously ill at her home here. Sister M. Irene, O. S. B., returned to Oregon City Tuesday after spending a few days at the home of her mother.

Pantry Patter By R. C. E. BATH HELPS CLOTHESLINE When buying a new clothesline do not immediately put it into use. First let it repose in boiling water for half an hour. This will keep it from stretching and prevent its tangling and will give it longer life. HINGES NEED OIL, TOO. Do you know that about once a year you ought to oil your hinges, knobs and latches? Just a drop of oil will do and they will work better and last longer. GRAPE-NUTS MOUSSE One-third cup sugar; 1/4 cup water; 2 egg whites, stiffly beaten; 1 cup cream, whipped; 1/2 teaspoon vanilla; 1/4 cup Grape-Nuts. Bring sugar and water to a boil and boil until syrup spins a thread when dropped from tip of spoon (232 F.). Pour slowly over egg whites, beating constantly. Continue heating until mixture is cool (about 3 minutes). Fold in cream and vanilla. Add Grape-Nuts. Place in freezing tray of automatic refrigerator and let stand 3 to 4 hours, or until firm. Or turn into mold, filling it to overflowing; cover with waxed paper, and pack in equal parts ice and salt. Let stand 3 to 4 hours, or until firm. Makes about 1 1/2 pints mousse.

SHIPMENTS TO CANADA GROW Washington, March 21 (AP)—American exports to Canada rose 18 per cent in January, the first month after enforcement of the new reciprocal trade treaty with the Dominion neighbor, according to commerce department figures published today. Shipments to Canada for the month were valued at \$26,590,000, compared with \$22,808,000 of the comparable month of 1935, according to the department.

MALHEUR IS WETTEST SPOT Malheur county is the wettest in Oregon—liquorally speaking. Every person in the county supposedly drank \$17.20 worth of liquor last year, according to statistics compiled by the Oregon liquor control commission. For the state at large the per capita consumption was \$6.334 when the population as given by the 1930 census was divided into \$6,041.11, total liquor sales in 24 stores and 130 agencies. Clatsop was the second wettest county, with a per capita consumption of \$10.43. Hood River was right behind with \$10.34. Avid, according to the records, was Benton county where no state stores or agencies are located. Washington county was officially the driest at \$1.78.

2 LITTLE WHALES CAVORT IN RIVER Astoria, Ore., March 21 (AP)—Two small whales cavorted within the mouth of the Columbia river yesterday, feasting on napless salmon and flirting with fame. To become famous the 16-foot sea creatures would need only to follow the example of "Ethelbert," tiny whale that swam up the Columbia and Willamette rivers to Portland and was harpooned by a would-be exhibitor. Go still farther up the Willamette to the Oregon City Falls and attempt to climb over as did "Mrs. Finnegan," a half ton sea-lion who later was hauled back to the ocean, or. Have someone haul them overland to the Metolius river of Central Oregon and later be "discovered" by some fisherman as was a small octopus from California recently.