

# 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: Weekly, \$15; Monthly, \$40; One Year, \$47.20.  
BY MAIL IN OREGON: Monthly, \$5.00; Six Months, \$25.00; One Year, \$45.00.  
UNITED STATES OUTSIDE OREGON: Monthly, \$5.50; Six Months, \$30.00;  
Year, \$55.00.

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

### Feasible and Desirable

Of all of the WPA projects suggested for the city of Salem since the inception of the federal government's work relief program none has been more adaptable to successful application of hand labor methods, or more to be desired from the standpoint of civic improvement than the proposal made to the council last night to protect and beautify the old city camp ground and convert it into a permanent park.

The details of the plan as worked out by the city engineer in cooperation with local officials of the WPA and NYA call for a total expenditure of about \$14,000, with the city contributing \$2000 for materials and the government \$12,000 in labor.

With this money it is proposed to surround the 5-acre tract with dry masonry rock walls to protect the banks of Shelton ditch and Pringle creek, which border the park on the north and south, fill the enclosed grounds where filling is required with dirt graded out of nearby streets and prepare the entire area for landscaping to restore it to its original natural beauty. Necessary dredging operations in the two creeks during recent years have made much of the park a bare waste of loose, ugly rock which, for lack of retaining walls, slides back into the creek beds with each recurring flood.

The federal money is available in allocations already made; the troublesome question being where the city is to get its \$2000. City Engineer Davis made the suggestion that part of the \$2500 received from the capitol reconstruction commission as compensation for the old bandstand in Willson park—donated to the city by the late Jos. N. Albert—be utilized. But this met with the objection that the city is morally bound to use that money for replacement of the bandstand, a suitable site for which the park board has so far been unable to find.

A way out of the dilemma suggests itself in the thought that the bandstand fund be used in part, the balance be set up in a further bandstand project under WPA in the new park and the whole park be dedicated as a memorial to the public spirited generosity of Mr. Albert. Certainly such a plan would have been acceptable to Mr. Albert had he lived a few months longer and the agreement of his heirs is logically to be anticipated.

### The New Justice

The first reaction to the nomination of William O. Douglas to be associate justice of the supreme court is relief that the appointment did not go to Senator Schwellenbach of Washington or to some other politician whose chief recommendation was that he was an ardent Roosevelt idolator.

Mr. Douglas, at 40, is not a politician, but a brilliant lawyer and a man of character. He is probably the best informed man in the nation on corporation law and practices and his experience with the SEC has shown him a man of discretion and judgment. That he is a westerner and familiar with the traditions and background of the west, adds to his desirability.

Mr. Douglas is a self made man in every sense of the word, the son of poor missionary parents, who had to do all kinds of work to secure an education. He put himself through the public schools of Yakima and Whitman college, taught school, then worked at odd jobs to put himself through Columbia university law school. After two years as a member of a large law firm, he taught law first at Columbia, then at Yale where he became sterling professor of law and won recognition as one of the outstanding law teachers of the nation.

A corporate reorganization by Douglas attracted the attention of Joseph P. Kennedy, chairman of the SEC, with the result that Douglas was later elevated to head the SEC himself and made a good job of cleaning up the stock exchange.

Though Mr. Douglas is a new dealer, he is not a fanatical one, nor does he agree with many of its experiments. He is a liberal of the Brandeis type and has a thorough respect for the constitution.

### Community Cooperation Needed

The Salem Box company of West Salem is one of the most promising local industries in the community. Starting from small beginnings in 1928 with sales of \$7500 and a payroll of \$2000, it expanded gradually until it had sales of \$150,000 and a payroll of \$60,000 in 1937, when it was wantonly destroyed by fire by the labor terrorists. It had shown a steady profit, which was put back into the business in plant enlargement.

The plant has been rebuilt and since getting back into production has maintained payrolls running as high as \$5000 a month, with an average of \$3400. But it has been handicapped by lack of capital. At the time of rebuilding, various promises of financial assistance were made, encouraging the management to go ahead with construction, but many subscribers failed to make good, others took manufactured material for the money advanced. Only about \$8000 was paid in.

The company has passed the experimental stage and is now in position for permanent financing. It has a ready local market for all of its output, as there is no other box factory in this section of the valley. But lack of adequate working capital compels it to turn down many profitable contracts.

Much has been said about the necessity or desirability of securing new industries and payrolls, but here is an established payroll of \$5000 a month which is as important to the community as any new one could be. Community cooperation should be forthcoming to preserve and expand this desirable concern. Keeping the industries we have is better policy than seeking for new ones. Salem cannot afford to lose any of its payrolls.

### Squeaking Chair Alderman's Target

Alderman C. F. French is a patient man, but his patience can be exhausted. Before the city council adjourned last night he arose and said:

"Mr. Mayor there is one matter that has been called to my attention about every 30 seconds tonight. That is Alderman Willis Clark's chair. I suggest it be referred to the engineering department."

probably the Clark chair, when it is French's immediate right, won't be squeaking next time the council meets.

Alderman French, by the way, isn't the only one whose nerves have been curried by the squeaking chair.

Wood Cutter Injured  
Jefferson—George Campbell, who is cutting wood for George Boys in the Scavellhill district, cut his ankle with the axe. The local physician, treated the wound.

### A Dog's Life

By Beck



### Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

Art Perry, the Medford columnist, maintained the same discreet and painful silence in his Monday's column about the result of the final game in the state basketball tournament, that the powers that be should maintain about the European situation but do not. Mr. Perry would be a good man to establish in Washington, D. C., as ambassador of good will by power of example.

As to divers and sundry remarks made by the powers that be relative to the European situation, we feel sure the late Mr. Kipling would forgive us for quoting a few lines

### Novelties In the News

(By Associated Press)

#### "So Sorry"

Bluefield, W. Va.—A nervous, well-dressed young man held up Mrs. Virginia Shumaker 20-year-old movie eashier, and took \$245. He apologized:

"I'm sorry but I've just got to have the money. Give me five minutes to make my getaway and I swear I'll send the money back to you in 90 days."

Police said they couldn't wait 90 days—and started looking for him.

#### Wrong Half

Los Angeles — James Roygad's clothes were pretty well torn up when he reported to police he had been robbed. In fact, he had only one leg on his trousers.

"The holdup got the other half of my pants," he said. "The worst part of it is that he got the half with my wallet."

#### Run-Out

Salt Lake City—When the dentist called "Next!" 8-year-old Roy Daniels' mother couldn't find him. She notified police, who located Roy five hours later.

"We'll try again tomorrow," she told officers.

#### Tax Collector's Utopia

Waupaca, Wis.—Being treasurer of the village of Scandinavia, as Miss Daisy Buer, is an all right job. The villagers have paid 98 per cent of their county taxes. Only five taxpayers failed to pay and three of them have asked an extension until July 1.

#### Trouble Makers Blamed in Prison

San Quentin, Calif., March 21 (AP)—Authorities of San Quentin prison acted today to break the second hunger strike of convicts in two months, and hinted at a plan to revoke the good behavior credits of strike leaders.

"The whole thing," said Warden Court Smith, "is due to about fifteen trouble makers."

Sixteen hundred of the 3300 inmates of San Quentin, reputedly America's most populous prison, refused to eat their evening meal yesterday after a protest against prison fare. Later, however, they went quietly to their cells along with 3700 other convicts who had failed to join in the strike.

Guards threatened strikers with confinement on a bread and water diet if they refused to eat breakfast today. Meantime, higher prison authorities said if the unrest continued, they would ask the board of prison terms and paroles to revoke the "good time" credits of strike leaders. This would add about 50 per cent to the length of most sentences.

Warden Smith said there was nothing the matter with the prison food.

Monmouth—The College Inn and fixtures have been sold by Mrs. Cora B. Slattery to Mr. and Mrs. Byron Beard. Mrs. Slattery will make her home in Portland. Mr. and Mrs. Beard, who came from Montana, took possession of the restaurant Monday.

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## NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

Washington, March 21—One official inside version is that Chamberlain, Daladier and Roosevelt had

some inside information about what Hitler was going to do... considered it inevitable... therefore were not surprised.

They may have known it in the sense that, as all Czech fortresses had been delivered up to Hitler with the Sudetenland, everyone knew he could take the rest whenever he decided to break his promise. Apparently they did not know he would break his word right after the ideas of March, or even this year.

That Chamberlain was caught flatfooted is evident in the fact that he was at that very moment publicizing a trade rapprochement with Germany, sending a mission to Berlin. And Mr. Roosevelt told his press conference this was not the crisis he hinted at before he started his naval cruise. (He did not say so, but he merely knew then both Mussolini and Hitler were to bring up new troop classes; the crisis he expected apparently was that still threatened by Mussolini in the Mediterranean.)

They were all outwitted again.

### Where It Hurts

Chamberlain and Daladier are supposed here to have a definite plan of stopping the dictators at the point where they have expected the next crisis—in the Mediterranean. But no one here believes they will or can do anything effective about Rumania or Memel.

Britain, France and the U. S. seem to have been cutting Hitler where it hurts in the bread basket, even before the U. S. treasury declared its 25 per cent tariff penalty against Nazi goods.

Their buying in Germany has fallen off this way (commerce department figures in round millions of dollars):

United Kingdom	France	U.S.
1937.....174	126	84
1938.....141	87	60

Hitler's purchases from Britain and France have not declined as much, and have increased in the United States. (He has been buying mostly factory machinery here that he cannot get anywhere else.) The Hitler buying report shows (in millions of dollars):

United Kingdom	France	U.S.
1937.....124	63	113
1938.....113	57	162

### Corcoran Away

Tommy Corcoran left town unannounced last week for a vacation. As he was the leader of the palace insurrection against tax appeasement, the Morgenthau-Hanes appeasers are cheering. They also have other more definite indications that the president may be on their side.

### Gravy Bloc

What might be called the gravy bloc of the house is a group of western congressmen, numbering upward of 25, which meets each Saturday mornings, and maps plans for getting gravy. By lading their votes to each other, they have become a tremendous power against economy.

How they sometimes work is illustrated by the story of one gravymen who wanted a certain new national park constructed in his state. It was a project so farfetched that

even the spending Ickes park service would not okay it. So the gravymen went to FDR, convinced him that WPA workers might better be assigned to cleaning up that area than raking leaves. It worked. WPA spent a lot of money cleaning up the area, so the park service could have no more objection about the amount of money involved.

Thus the astute gravymen was able to get park service approval now for an initial \$250,000 expenditure in the present interior bill. An ultimate expenditure of \$8,000,000 is contemplated.

### Trade Penalty

Consistency has been considered a rather cheap jewel in Washington recently, but it got down to the value of costume jewelry when the 25 per cent anti-Nazi trade penalty was announced.

The treasury took this action on the legal ground that Germany is subsidizing its exports at a time when Agriculture Secretary Wallace is trying to arrange an export subsidy to sell more cotton abroad.

Mr. Wallace and several important cotton officials had called on the president the day before and announced the president was sold on the export subsidy plan because the pending Smith bill would cost too much.

The sauce for the U. S. cotton goose has therefore been labeled poison for the U. S. importing gardeners. But no one will protest much.

Harry Hopkins, the right hand man, is having a job getting a businessman as head of his bureau of foreign and domestic commerce. Three have turned him down: D. M. Nelson, Sears-Roebuck V.P.; William Batt of S.K.F.; John Biggers, the unemployment census taker. Latest invitation has confidentially been submitted to Carl Conway, board chairman of Continental Can, with a similar result expected.

### Erecting Apartments

Silverton—Among recent building activities are the four strictly modern apartment cottages constructed by the Homebuilders Agency at 410 North Second street. Two of the cottages are reserved for tourists and two are rented by the town. Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Pettit are making their home in the Homebuilders' apartments and the Harry Wilsons moved from there to the Donnell apartments.

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## Rutledge of Iowa Named to Circuit Court

Washington, March 21 (AP)—Wiley Blount Rutledge, Jr., dean of the University of Iowa law school, was nominated by President Roosevelt today to be an associate justice of the United States court of appeals of the District of Columbia.

This is a new position created by the last congress. Dean Rutledge had been prominently mentioned for the vacancy of the United States supreme court, to which William O. Douglas, chairman of the securities commission, was nominated yesterday.

The Iowa professor, only 44 years old, has been dean of the university since 1935. A native of Cloverport, Ky., he studied at the universities of Wisconsin, Indiana and Colorado.

He taught in Indiana and New Mexico high schools and after gradu-

ating from the University of Colorado practiced law at Boulder, Colo., before becoming an associate professor of law at that university.

Attorney General Murphy recommended him for the local bench, saying he was "a man of outstanding character and integrity, a legal scholar of repute, broad and liberal in his viewpoint, and a man eminently qualified for the post."

The District of Columbia court of appeals is one of the most important in the judiciary system, handling as it does many cases involving government departments, and constitutionality of federal laws.

### Huntington on Race Commission

C. A. (Shy) Huntington of Eugene, former University of Oregon football coach, was appointed to the state racing commission by Governor Charles A. Sprague yesterday. He succeeded J. N. McPadden, Corvallis, resigned.

Marion—The Marion Community club will hold its regular meeting Tuesday evening at the W.O.W. hall. A good program is promised.

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