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The Myth of Rotation

With two candidates for the legislature from this area already declared as aspirants for the speakership of the next house of representatives, the old fable of rotation of that office among the state's congressional districts is being advanced as one of the principal reasons why neither John Steelhammer of Salem nor Lyle Thomas of Polk county are entitled to consideration, although both are members of the majority party and experienced lawmakers.

The principal objectors to Steelhammer and Thomas are Rep. French of Moro county and his eastern Oregon supporters. They contend that inasmuch as the second congressional district (all of eastern Oregon) has not been represented in the speaker's chair since Ernest R. Fatland of Condon occupied it in 1939, it has a valid claim on the job during the 1947 session. Elaborating on the rotation theory, French and his friends point out that the 1941 speaker, Robert S. Farrell, Jr., hailed from the third district; the 1943 gavel wielder, Wm. McAllister of Medford, from the fourth district, and last year's presiding officer, Eugene Marsh, McMinnville, from the first district.

They have overlooked the fact, however, that Fatland's predecessor Harry Boivan of Klamath Falls, hailed from the second district in 1937, and that another lawmaker from the same part of the second district, Earl Snell, held the office in 1933. Going further back they will find still another second district man presiding over the 1929 house, Ralph S. Hamilton of Bend.

Thus in the ten years, 1929-39, four of the six regular session speakers were chosen from the eastern Oregon district, one from Portland, Frank J. Loneragan, one from the coast country in the first district, John E. Cooter of Toledo, and Howard Latourette, Portland, officiated over the 1935 special session.

Seldom since the turn of the century has the rotation of the speakership been followed through more than one turn of the cycle. Not since the regular session of 1919 when Seymour Jones of Salem presided, has either Marion or Polk counties been honored with the office.

L. B. Reeder of Pendleton was the first speaker of the house in the new century, holding that office in 1902. He was followed by Lawrence T. Harris of Eugene and the others intervening between Harris and Seymour Jones were A. L. Mills of Portland, 1905; Frank Davey of Salem, 1907; C. N. McArthur of Portland, 1909; John P. Rusk of Joseph, 1911; C. N. McArthur again, 1913; Ben Selling of Portland, 1915; R. N. Stanfield of Stanfield, 1917.

During the 20's the house had such speakers as Louis E. Bean of Eugene, K. K. Kubli of Portland, Denton G. Burdick of Redmond, and John H. Carlin of Medford. During their terms the rotation was orderly.

Stimulating Fish Extermination

Corvallis is the latest of a number of Oregon communities to stage a "fishing derby," with junior and senior divisions and monthly and grand prizes in five classifications of fish, sponsored by Corvallis merchants running from opening day, April 20 to August 19, inclusive. It is hoped to make it a yearly affair. The classifications of fish for which prizes will be given are trout, bass, blue-gill, crappie and grayling and they can be caught in any Oregon waters but must be weighed in at local agencies and a 50 cent registration fee is charged.

It would seem that the "sportsmen" of Oregon should devote their energies to conservation of fish rather than stimulating their slaughter, for only last week the scientists of the Oregon State college issued another warning that the fish, especially trout and salmon, in the Willamette and its tributaries face certain and rapid extermination by pollution of city sewage and industrial waste. Samples of water taken in all the streams from source to mouth show that essential oxygen is lacking in the tainted and poisoned waters for the river has become a sewer system, and its waters unfit for humans as well as fish.

The spiny rayed fish such as big mouth bass and crappies, carp, etc., may survive as they do in ponds. There are of course no grayling in Oregon streams and probably white-fish are meant. The construction of high dams which shut off fish from natural spawning beds, will probably necessitate the stocking of lakes formed with the spiny rayed which will furnish the fishing of the future, but are not considered in the same class as trout.

Over fishing is one of the causes of the growing extermination and commercializing it by "derbies" only hastens the approach of the day of troutless streams, and all for the sake of stimulating fishing equipment sales that will drop as fishing peters-out.

Truman Invites Doubt

Whatever else he might have accomplished by his rebuke, President Truman invited suspicion and studied scrutiny of his proposal to unite the nation's armed forces into a single department when he publicly denounced officers and others attached to the navy for alleged lobbying against the merger bill.

The president could hardly have committed a greater blunder in his efforts to pass this legislation than by attempting by high-handed tactics to suppress opposition to the plan among his subordinates. If in forbidding criticism of the merger he was acting in his military capacity of commander-in-chief of all the armed forces, in his warning to navy personnel to keep hands off he was resorting to very questionable tactics by threatening to enforce his gag rule by disciplinary action.

His action focuses the attention of the country upon the possible defects in the plan by exhibiting fear of what free discussion might reveal. The merger plan is popular with a majority of Americans. But if there is something wrong with it they want to know what, why and how.

The people want no more incidents like the Gen. "Billy" Mitchell affair which, through blind prejudice of our military brass left this country 20 years behind other great world powers in the matter of air forces. Nor do we want a military force that is bound and gagged and blindfolded.

Albany Winner F. F. Cooley Plaque

Honored as the star Future Farmers of America chapter in Oregon, the Albany organization was awarded the coveted Cooley plaque last night at a dinner concluding the two-day annual state FFA convention here.

Daniel Potter, Silverton, was named state farmer for having the most outstanding individual

record. Potter received a \$100 prize.

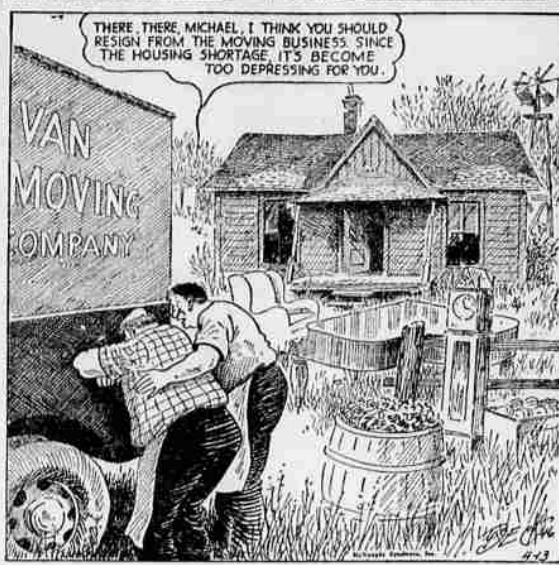
Ronald Jones, head of the state Farmers' Union and featured speaker at the dinner, was elected honorary state farmer by the delegates.

The Cooley plaque is awarded in honor of the late Earl Cooley, former director of the State Department of Vocational Education.

The Egyptians brewed beer from barley as early as 3000 B.C.

Actions You Regret

By Beck



The Fireside Pulpit

Reverend George H. Swift
Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The Fireside Pulpit—The day designated in the Christian calendar "Palm Sunday," our Lord started on His last journey to Jerusalem. He knew that He would be crucified. The shadow of the Cross was before Him. Because of the crowd that gathered along the way to cry "Hosannas," this trip has gone down in history as a march of triumph.

But the triumph in our Lord's march to Jerusalem that day was not in the hosannas of a fickle hero - worshipping crowd, but in his own will to make the supreme sacrifice, and thereby carrying out to a successful conclusion one of the objects of his incarnation. It was a triumph for his steadfastness of purpose at any cost. He knew that as a result of his death, the resurrection would follow. He steered himself to do anything which would ultimately bring about the establishment of his kingdom on earth.

Christ was not deceived by the palm branches and hosannas. He saw through the emptiness of popularity which did not rest on a foundation of genuine love! One time early in his ministry Christ was followed by a multitude. It was soon after the miracle of the "feeding of the

five thousand." Jesus was not deceived as to their interest in him personally. He turned with scorn upon them and said, "Ye seek me because ye did eat of the loaves and were filled." Judas apparently followed our Lord, not because he loved him, nor because of any service he might render, but because of material rewards he hoped to receive in the kingdom our Lord promised to establish. His interest was not in Christ, but in loaves and fishes!

We may deceive our fellow men but we can never deceive God. His eternal purposes might conceivably be delayed by human insincerity, but never stopped. Christ moves on to victory after victory as in that first holy week. The traitor's kiss only brought nearer our Lord's triumph over death and the fulfillment of his mission. Easter came and the kingdom was established.

Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

One touch of progress is apt to lead to other changes, and that to other changes, and so on, ad infinitum as Julius Caesar and his friends used to say. As a case in point we'll cite the fact that we saw Jimmy Nicholson walking along the board walk by the new First National Bank building yesterday. Which gave rise to the speculation as to whether Jimmy was looking around for a new parking place to follow the bank when it moves.

But an even more pronounced symptom of one change being hewed out of another was apparent this morning when, looking from the front window of our favorite paper, we saw two pigeons alight in the middle of Chemeketa street, stalk across the street, mount the curb, and the two turned and looked the situation over in re the new bank building. Obviously as they stood there they were discussing something among themselves and while doing so took several significant glances at the new building site. So there's no telling what'll happen when the new building is finished and gets to functioning.

Our anonymous correspondent in the matter of Chief Frank Minto and the bachelor buttons, has come to bat again in response to Frank's appeal. A few days ago he sent in one button, and the chief came back

with a plea for five more. Now through the mail comes the other five with the anonymous donor giving instructions for him to guard them with care as he has no more. "If he needs any more he'll have to get himself a nail," commented the philanthropic donor.

But if Frank really needs more, comes a letter from Van's Variety store in Stayton volunteering to send along five of the bachelor buttons if the chief will refund a dollar Van got soaked here a while back for a parking ticket. He declares the socking of an overtime parking ticket on his car wasn't legal in the first place. "But," he comments, "a chief of police gets the seat of his pants ate out so much anyway I don't see how he knows whether his pants are up or down."

Human Perversity
Dear Sips: With all this food shortage that people are yelling about what has become of the people that were on a diet a few years ago when there was plenty of food? When there's lots of grub they all go on a diet and now that food is scarce everybody is eating his head off. Where are all those one time reducers, anyway? Everyday Reader.

We can tell Everyday Reader

Novelties In the News

(By the Associated Press)

Right Lane
Plainview, Tex., April 13 (AP)—When Mrs. Ivan Adkins was stopped by a traffic officer she didn't get a ticket. She got a pair of nylon.

Followed for eight blocks, the officer told Mrs. Adkins that she had done "everything right," whereas five lady drivers checked before her over the same route had committed one or more traffic violations.

The Nylon idea was part of a safety educational program.

New Roach Role

Tulsa, Okla., April 13 (AP)—Millard Bashaw credits a cockroach with saving his life. Just as he was ready to climb into bed, Bashaw sighted the insect near a gas outlet and stepped over to destroy it. There he discovered that the valve was open and rapidly filling the room with gas.

MACKENZIE'S Column

The new negotiations over India's freedom from England—one of the greatest and most dangerous of the world's unsolved problems—are verging on their crucial moment.

The British cabinet delegation, which recently arrived at New Delhi with a fresh offer of independence, has had its consultations with the various Indian political parties. Now the time has arrived from those political organizations to face other across the conference table and try to iron out differences which have existed for generations and frequently have resulted in bloodshed.

Time Has Come

The London delegation—headed by Lord Pethick-Lawrence, secretary of state for India, and including Sir Stafford Cripps, who conducted the ill fated mission of 1942—has notified the Indian public that the time has come for "decisive consultation between Indian parties." The statement characterizes this as "the most important phase of the negotiations" and says that "it is a phase which calls for the utmost efforts from the leading statesmen of India and from the cabinet mission to arrive at a solution acceptable to all sides."

That is indeed a moderate description of a volcanic situation which has erupted with extreme violence periodically.

The two major political parties are the All-India Congress, dominated by Mahatma Gandhi, and the Moslem League, headed by Mahomed Ali Jinnah. One of the great difficulties in the past has lain in the fact that these parties divide not only on political affairs but along religious lines. The name of the Moslem League speaks for itself—it is made up of Moslems (Mohammedans). The All-India Congress claims to be non-religious, but it is comprised mainly of Hindus.

Tradition has it that these two religions are like oil and water to each other, and certainly this has found support in the bitterness of their conflict at times. Still, having spent much time in India studying the position, your correspondent is one of those who believe that Moslems and Hindus can and will mix—because he has seen them getting along together in greatest amity when there were no busy-bodies about to stir up quarrels.

Marine Corps Speeds Discharges

Washington, April 13 (AP)—The marine corps has moved up the discharge eligibility date for 8,800 enlisted men by half a month.

The corps estimated that number would be effected by an order issued late yesterday cutting the discharge point score from 38 to 36 next Monday. Otherwise the 8,800 would not have qualified until May 1 when the score drops to 33.

Up to April 5 the marines had demobilized 296,830 persons.

of one who has been reducing. Same is old friend Ben Pade who we called on for a minute yesterday and found he'd knocked off 25 lbs. and he looks like the good old Pade of the athletic days. But this reducing was from bronchial pneumonia which keeled Ben over. He's now getting back in shape, however, to take any kind of a ribbing handed out—and we bet it's the first time in 25 years Ben knew he had any ribs.

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—there was a piano in nearly every home, and Junior had to practice an hour before going out to play? That was the longest hour in his day. He watched the clock while he laboriously did his finger exercises. The clock kept better time than Junior. Remember?

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Women's Post Joins Council

Post membership in the Marion county council and assembly of the American Legion was increased to nine this week when the council accepted membership of Salem Post No. 149, composed exclusively of women. Eight posts were represented at the meeting Thursday night, including Mt. Angel, Capital Post No. 9, Salem Post No. 149, Silverton, Woodburn, Stayton, St. Paul and Aurora with Salem Post No. 136 absent. Fred Lucht, of Mt. Angel, is president of the council and Irl McSherry, Salem, secretary.

Surplus supplies for veterans featured the discussion period but no action was taken. The council sent an amendment back to the posts which would provide that any post would be eligible for membership without the formality of voting. Membership in the American Legion was stressed by Pphaen Sayre, of Aurora, district commander. Invitation to hold the next council meeting at Aurora June 14 was accepted.

The assembly meeting was in charge of Maude Price, assisted by Mae Heggie, acting in place of Nellie Jones, secretary, and Mrs. Cletus Busch directing the program. Short talks were given by department officers, including Edith Brown, membership chairman; Mae Whitcomb, secretary; Thelma Anderson, historian and Nota Francis, past president. The St. Paul unit issued a general invitation to a poppy dance to be held there May 24.

Dockmen Sympathize With Chinese, Quit

Coos Bay, April 13 (AP)—A longshoremen's strike in sympathy with 46 Chinese crewmen denied shore leave from the Dutch motorship Vanderheist was reported here today.

The longshoremen refused to work the ship yesterday and returned to the hiring hall after immigration men here said they were not instructed to let the Chinese come ashore. Earlier, word was received from the Chinese embassy that immigration officials in Washington had lifted the ban, set in San Francisco.

The ship, taking on lumber here, was scheduled to leave for Portland Sunday.

ABCs of Planning: Why A Plan for Public Buildings?

Why should "A plan for public buildings" produce tangible results? Here are the Salem long-range planning commission's reasons for developing point No. 3 in its program to make Salem, not a city growing in a haphazard manner, but a bigger and better city growing according to a well-ordered plan:

1. Because by proper location and design

a. They increase the efficiency and hence decrease the cost of government.

b. They add tremendously to the beauty of the city. This fact results not only in a sociological gain (i.e. an augmented happiness and general welfare of the citizenry); but also in a distinct financial gain because of its influence on the tourist traffic. This traffic, even before the war, netted a return of over \$50,000,000—annually distributed to retail stores (largely by women purchasers of clothing, notions, camera supplies, cosmetics, souvenirs, etc.); to restaurants, cafes, groceries, auto camps, hotels, apartments, theaters, amusements; and for boats, guides, gas, oil and auto supplies. During the postwar years hundreds of thousands from other states—people whose desires in regard to travel have been repressed for so many years—will swell this total to \$100,000,000 annually, perhaps more. But this is but part of the picture! These visitors are potential investors; many of them are home seekers. The snow capped mountain vistas; the gurgling trout streams; the blazing sunsets; the ocean beaches; the cloying pastoral beauty of the Valley! These are potent in their call, and anything which adds to Salem's scenic and civic allure will add just that much more strength to its bid for home seekers and investors.

The official flower of the District of Columbia is the American Beauty rose.

The action was taken as a result of crowded conditions in the Lebanon high school, and its inability to continue to indefinitely accommodate the 240 non-high school pupils coming from these 17 districts and nine other districts in the area.

A committee was delegated to interview the Lebanon school board in regard to the formation of a union high school district.

Union High School District Favored

Lebanon—At a meeting held at the Crowfoot school approximately 70 school patrons of non-high territory and boards of directors of 17 non-high school districts went on record as favoring the formation of a union high school to include the Lebanon district and expressed themselves as opposed to consolidation for all school purposes.

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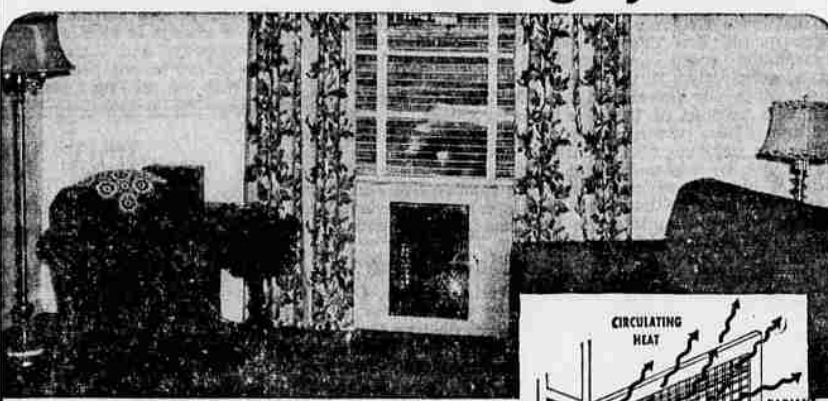
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