

THE EUGENE GUARD

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19.

Down at Salem

WHAT is it that happens to men when they get into the legislature that makes them do such funny things? We are thinking this time of Bruce Dennis. He is a successful business man, a sound thinker and a man of affairs when he is at home in La Grande. Yet he goes to Salem and tries to get the legislature to submit a constitutional amendment pledging Oregon not to enact income tax or inheritance tax laws for fifteen years to come, although he knows full well that even if such an amendment were ratified—which of course it wouldn't be—it could be repealed at the next subsequent or any future election, and so would be as lacking in authoritative effectiveness as a bottle of near-beer opened the day before yesterday.

It was, perhaps, inevitable that the Clear lake water and power bills should fail in the legislature. The project as those bills outlined it was open to serious criticism on several scores. One was that it contemplated wholesale operations in hydro-electric power by the district to have been created. Another was that it seemed likely to create a sort of super-municipality, which would have been certain to have irked the member cities in many ways. Doubt was left by the outline of the plan as to how far the commission which it proposed to create could go with the taxing power. And there seemed apparent a disposition by some of its promoters to harness to the project a plan for a highway across the mountains.

All these things, coupled with the prospect that the project would call for a larger capital outlay than the population of the district to be served could justify for some years to come made it advisable that the bills be defeated. From its inception the project failed to inspire general confidence or enthusiasm.

Some of the clients of Attorney Banks will be disappointed at the defeat of the bill of Senator Banks to take proper license regulation out of the hands of city authorities, but most other people will accept the result in spirit calm.

In his legislative activities Representative William F. Woodward, of Multnomah county, is a born coddler. Just about every bill he promotes is designed to make the state of Oregon be a kind nurse to the people of one class or another in one way or another. His latest effort along this line, a bill to provide for the furnishing of textbooks by the taxpayers free of cost to school children who use them, has just gone by the board. Representative Woodward smilingly tells the legislature that he will be back two years hence with another bill to the same end. That ought to be tip enough to the Multnomah county people to let him stay at home next time, but probably it will not. You can't help liking Representative Woodward because he is so ingenuous in what he does, so sincere and so big-hearted. But he subordinates horse sense to high-flown socialism in nearly all his ideas of government.

Senator Jack Magladry got his workmen's compensation act amendment through both houses of the legislature, and our guess is that he will have the governor's approving John Henry at the bottom of it before long.

The Oregon retail merchants will come again to Eugene and hold their next year's convention here. Fine for Eugene and fine for them. Dean Clyde Robbins, of the school of business administration in the University of Oregon, is the man who so managed this year's convention as to make the delegates want to come back.

Some Oregon justices of the peace, it is said, reap for themselves \$10,000 a year in fees and fines. After settling up in some country districts for the little effort of having driven a trifle faster than 30, one is prepared to believe it.

Did you like the name they gave the Longworth baby? So did we; particularly its first part.

This will be a good day to make your contribution to the Y. M. C. A. maintenance fund.

COMMENT OF THE PRESS

Governor Passes Buck.

(Roseburg News-Review) Governor Pierce, at the eleventh hour, is asking for harmony among the legislators and himself. Of course, in his own chosen words, he passes the buck to the boys in the senate and house for the lack of cooperation that has been prevalent during the past five weeks in the legislature. But, to us fellows on the sidelines it looks very much like the governor had been responsible for most of the friction existing at the state capitol, simply because the old boy couldn't help his own way on all important matters affecting the welfare of the state. The senate and house did well to curb a lot of nonsensical ideas advanced by the chief executive.

The right to judge should exist somewhere. But where?

In Portland, there is a censorship board, serving without pay, and operating satisfactorily. There is also now a proposal to create a state board with three members working on a salary. Paid censors? The thought of it is objectionable. A most sensible and practicable suggestion is made to the legislature that the decision of the Portland board, as to any picture, be extended to the state. It will cost the state nothing; the state will have the benefit of the services of men and women acting solely from a sense of duty, and not for pay. Censorship should not be a job. It should be a service.

Governor Shows Sense

(Pendleton East Oregonian) The governor showed good sense in disposing of Cleaver. Likewise he was sensible in appointing I. N. Fleischer to the game commission. And he made a very sensible suggestion when he told the legislature it was time to put aside politics, personalities and pettiness and get down to some real, constructive business in the few days yet remaining of the legislative session.

Put Up the Golden Rule

(Newberg Graphic) Our opinion is that about the most foolish piece of legislation offered so far in the legislature is that bill by State Senator LaFollet of Marion

county and proposes to make it mandatory upon all factories, offices, stores, etc., to post the Lord's prayer. Had he tried to make them put up the golden rule we might see a little element of sense in it, but to try to enforce religion by law is a poor method.

Mera Bureaucracy

(Salem Capital Journal) Section 15 of H. B. 391, known as the doctors trust bill, reveals the inspiration of this measure as well as of most similar regulative and restrictive laws and all reforms. It reads:

It shall be the duty of all persons licensed to practice the healing art in the state of Oregon to register by the first day of August, 1920, and annually thereafter, with the secretary of the Oregon board of licensure in the healing art, and to apply for an annual license renewal fee in the sum of two dollars (\$2).

There we have it—the \$2 per year, which from some 5,000 to 10,000 doctors and healers, makes good picking for the bureaucrats. As usual the board created serves without pay except expenses, but employs "such assistants as may be necessary" who run the board.

The spirit of regulating the other fellow is strongly in evidence, for the new board supplants the courts and is made sole judge of the qualifications of the applicants, the various boards for special varieties of healers being abolished and control of the new board given to one branch of the healing art. While the standards of education are raised for the future, the present practitioners are not required to get an education.

Under the bill doctors and healers could not travel about, or solicit business by circulars, letters or advertisements, which is aimed to put out of business the itinerants and specialists—in short it provides another instance of government by monopolistic bureaucracy.

In New York

By JAMES W. DEAN

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—There is no adventure to be had in New York quite as stirring as a ferry ride through the fog. Pilots cannot see more than a few feet ahead, yet they know the river and harbor are awash with craft. Direction is found by sound. The various wharves have bells of varying tone and the ferry pilot recognizes his own particular bell heads in that direction.

All craft keep up an incessant bling of whistles and ringing of bells. They proceed at a very slow pace.

All of which creates for the ferry passenger an atmosphere of great suspense. Some great bulk is likely to loom up at the side of the boat any minute. There will be a screeching of whistles and the churning of water as the vessels are thrown into reverse. There may be a collision, passengers being hurled to the decks.

But the thrill is in putting foot ashore after the ride.

A heavy fog will discommode hundreds of thousands of those who work in New York and bring about heavy financial losses to business firms.

The only means of transportation between Staten Island and Manhattan are the ferries. The trip under normal conditions takes from 20 to 30 minutes, depending on the state of the tide. In a heavy fog, such as New York has experienced for several days, the trip takes several hours.

Many thousands of workers in New York live in New Jersey. Many of them can connect with trains through the under-river tubes on foggy mornings. Those in North Jersey are dependent on the ferries.

W. J. Perry, a cultured anthropologist of London, says that "Nordics" die out in urban centers like London and that the big cities are only for the short dark-haired and brown-eyed type. I do not know enough about the subject to argue one way or the other, but observation in New York indicates that he is right. All the Nordics I know here talk about being farmers some day.

Add inconsequential statistics: There were 84,137 fewer trunks and parcels handled at the Pennsylvania terminal here during 1924 than in 1923, when the total was 1,639,163. This is accounted for by new air mail and tariff provisions and the tendency of women to travel with smaller wardrobes.

Oregon Briefs

A new 80-foot bridge to replace one that collapsed during a recent storm has been opened on the Powers-Coos Bay highway near Yellow creek.

The Scappoose, South Scappoose and Warren district have consolidated into a high school district, the special election last week resulting in a majority of 367 in favor of the consolidation.

J. A. Churchill, state superintendent of public instruction, and Professor Harold Tuttle of Pacific university will be speakers at a teachers' institute to be held in Bend, February 21.

Jacob Butts, 81 years old, pioneer of 1845 and the last survivor of the emigrant train which found the first gold in Oregon, died last week at his home in Hereford, Baker county.

The Glendale Lumber company has purchased from C. A. Becher of Redwing, Minn., 2,255 acres of pine timber on McCullough creek, near Glendale, and will remove its mill from Fernvale.

The sawmill at Beaver creek in Clackamas county, owned by William and John Moelke, resumed operations last week after being closed down for four months. Twenty men are employed.

B. C. Nickell, a Newberg boy, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Nickell, has been commended for bravery in helping to save the lives of persons on board the steamship Esperanza when it was stranded off the Tampico bar.

Because he lacked six feet of being in the ward from which he was supposed to have been elected, Walter Panter has automatically gone out of office as a member of the Bendon city council.

The Busy Man's Newspaper



GENERAL MITCHELL TAKES CHANCE

Court-martial Braved in Order to get Need for Department of Aviation for Country's Defense Before People of Nation

By HARRY B. HUNT (NEA Service Writer)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Brigadier General "Billy" Mitchell is always ready to "take a chance." That quality, perhaps more than any other, was responsible for his rapid promotion in the army air service. Everything man has accomplished in the air has been accomplished by the fellow willing to "take a chance." And to these accomplishments Mitchell has contributed no little.

The situation in which Mitchell now finds himself embroiled, with court martial, demotion or dismissal from his post as assistant chief of the army air service openly hinted, is the direct result of his willingness to "take a chance" to advance the cause of aviation.

From Mitchell's viewpoint the development of aviation as an invaluable arm of America's military defenses is handicapped and hamstringed by being under the jurisdiction of old-time army and navy officers who went through West Point and Annapolis when the idea of "flying machines" was still a joke.

These men were taught that the ground army and the capital ship navy constituted the main arms of national defense, and that everything else must be made subordinate.

Convinced in his own mind that America's supremacy in the air, in a military way, can only be brought about by the creation of an air force

independent of either army or navy, Mitchell has taken the only course open to him by which to get national attention for his proposal.

As an officer in a subordinate branch of the army, whatever recommendations or arguments he might make to his superiors in the service could easily be—and he says were—suppressed.

But his testimony before the special committee of congress investigating aircraft conditions was an open record.

There and only there lay his opportunity for a full public statement of his views. He knew the danger to himself such a course would invite, but—

He "took a chance."

Men have been shot at sunrise for saying less damaging things about the army and navy than Mitchell said. Had he said them within the confines of the war and navy building, he would have been brought before a drum-head court martial forthwith.

But, said before a congressional committee, in the presence of the public and newspaper representatives, the hands of his military superiors were, temporarily at least, stayed.

If Mitchell can make his case stick with the committee and the public, drastic action against him will still be frustrated. If he fails in this, the dashing air fighter will find himself and his independent air service proposal brought down in flames—another object lesson to the orthodox who feel inclined to "take a chance."

Mr. and Mrs. L. N. Roney are home after an extended visit in the east, south and middle west.

A Rebekah lodge with 32 members were organized in Mapleton last week.

The debates at the University of Oregon Saturday night to choose representatives for the university in the intercollegiate contest resulted in the following being chosen: B. C. Jakway, George O. Goodall, W. L. Whittlesey.

F. M. Wilkins and Amos Wilkins have gone to The Dalles.

Miss Carrie Hovey went to Portland this afternoon to spend a few weeks.

Mrs. T. W. Gilbert has arrived from Portland.

Irene encampment I. O. O. F. No. 42 was instituted at Florence last week by W. E. Gillis of Albany who had been commissioned special deputy grand patriarch for that work.

In Lighter Vein

No Wonder. (Life) "So you fell down on that crossword puzzle?" "No wonder. It contained the names of a vice-president, a writer of last year's best seller and winner of a peace prize." Well Qualified. (London Passing Show) Prospective Employer—But can you get up in the morning? Maid Applicant—Can I? Why, in my last place, I used to be up and have all the beds made before anyone else was up. Installment Plans. (Kansas City Star) "Ed is buying an automobile on the installment plan." "Yes, and if he doesn't drive more carefully, they will take him to the hospital on the same plan." And a Wooden Overcoat. (Arkansas Tom Cat) Old John Barleycorn is fixing to celebrate his wooden wedding next week with a quart of wood alcohol. Poison Ivy. (Youngstown Telegram) Euripides—Whata matter? Cold on your lip? Irigadose—No, I kissed a girl un-

der what I thought was mistletoe, but it must have been poison ivy.

A Bird's Bill. (London Answers) "That famous soprano you had at your dinner party last night sang like a bird." "Like a bird is right! I was conscious of her bill the entire evening."

Pioneering Days In Oregon During War Time Recited

SPOKANE, Wash., Feb. 19.—(AP)—Little known incidents in the early army careers of Generals Ulysses S. Grant, Phil Sheridan and George B. McClellan are related in an account of a year they spent at old Fort Vancouver, Oregon territory, written by Mrs. Delia B. Sheffield, who as the wife of a sergeant in the fourth United States infantry, the command to which they were attached, shared their pioneering experiences there in pre-civil war days.

A movement has been launched to restore old Fort Vancouver near what is now Vancouver, Wash., across the Columbia river from Portland, Ore. The fourth United States infantry, one of the pioneer organizations of the army, now is stationed at Fort George Wright, Spokane.

Memoria Made Public. Mrs. Sheffield's memoirs of these days have been made public by William S. Lewis, historian of the Eastern Washington Historical society, who received them from Mrs. Caroline Hathaway Cook, Mrs. Sheffield's daughter.

General, then Captain Grant, was regimental quartermaster and was in charge of the transportation of the fourth infantry on its long journey from Governor's island, New York, to Fort Vancouver in 1852. The trip was commenced on July 5, by steamer for Aspinwall, Panama, and thence across the Isthmus of Panama by train, boat, on muleback and on foot.

The officers were accompanied by their families and some of the women carried small babies. Gold Rush On. To add to the difficulties of the journey, the California gold rush was in full swing, and after the regiment had boarded a steamer on the Pacific side of the isthmus, Asiatic cholera broke out. San Francisco was reached September 1, but no shore leave was granted for fear of desertions to seek gold. At Benicia, Cal., an army post, the regiment went into camp to recuperate until September 18, and then again boarded ship for Fort Vancouver, which was reached some days later.

Besides the army barracks there, the town consisted of the Hudson's Bay company's trading post and a



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dozen log huts of Indian and half-breed employees of the company, which carried on extensive trapping operations with Fort Vancouver as the base.

In order to raise the money to bring his family from the east, Captain Grant with a fellow officer leased a tract of land not far from the fort, which he planted to potatoes and oats. However, Mrs. Sheffield's account relates, the river flooded out the crops.

Taken as Boarders. In the spring of 1853, Captain Grant asked Mrs. Sheffield to take into her home as boarders himself, Lieutenant Phil Sheridan, Captain George B. McClellan and two others. When she objected that she would be unable to care for so large a household, Captain Grant replied:

"Oh, that can be easily managed. I shall detail one of the soldiers who is a good cook to do the cooking and besides, I have an excellent cook book and am a pretty good cook myself. I am sure that we shall manage very well."

Grant missed his wife very much at this time and frequently expressed a desire to resign from the army and live with his family, which some time later he did. After the potato failure, Grant and his business associates bought all the chickens for 20 miles around and chartered a vessel to ship them to market in San Francisco. The ship returned with the news that the chickens had died on the way, however, thus dealing a second blow to Grant's fortunes.

Gave Cook Books. When Grant was ordered to report for duty at Humboldt, Cal., he gave Mrs. Sheffield his cook book, his feather pillows and some trinkets. "During Grant's stay of one year at Fort Vancouver he had not made an enemy and gained the friendship and good will of everybody," Mrs. Sheffield wrote. "He was indeed one of nature's noblemen."

Warehouse System Arouses Interest

COLUMBIA, S. C., Feb. 19.—(AP)—The development of the South Carolina warehouse system has aroused interest outside the state, and is being studied by representatives of other states, according to J. Clifton Rivers, state warehouse commissioner.

Texas especially, Mr. Rivers said, appears likely to start a system patterned after the South Carolina plan. There are approximately 1,200 state warehouses in South Carolina, devoted to the storing of cotton, corn and other commodities. These are held in storage until the market price justifies their sale.

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