

**Eastern Clackamas News**  
 Entered at the postoffice in Estacada, Oregon, as second-class mail.  
 • Published every Thursday at Estacada, Oregon  
 UPTON H. GIBBS  
 Editor and Manager.  
 SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
 One year \$1.50  
 Six months .75  
 Thursday, June 22, 1922.

**MAKING OF THE BIBLE**

The Bible still remains the incomparable Book. It is the best seller of all, and there is no other on which so much labor, thought and expense are expended to produce. The following article which is taken from The Witness, a religious weekly published in Chicago, gives a very interesting account of the process by which the Bible is printed and bound:

The first method of binding books was probably as early as the sixth century and known as the Byzantine style of binding, which makes this a much older art than that of printing. The monks had carried the art of binding missals and many precious works written by hand and wonderfully ornamented to a very high plane. The written leaves were fastened together and enclosed in covers of wood which were often decorated with jewels and ornaments of gold and silver. Most of these books were destroyed by people seeking the gems that were supposed to be hidden in the thick wooden covers.

Between the tenth and the fourteenth centuries, the monks in England, having copied and improved the designs of books brought from the East, became the foremost binders of Europe. The introduction of the printing press gave a great impetus to the trade of bookbinding and as the number of books increased, the art of bookbinding steadily improved and progressed. Today there is in existence not only well preserved specimens of the ancient binders' art, but splendid examples of the highly developed skill of the modern binder.

The Bible, the greatest of all books, is probably the best example of bookbinding, representing as it does all through the ages, the various methods, forms and artistic skill of the bookbinder. From the crude materials of the early centuries we now have the exquisitely ornamented bindings of the finest leathers, not to mention the thousands of binding styles for every day use.

In Bible making not only does the binding present opportunities for showing the trained skill of the artisan, but all the other steps in the process of the making of a Bible present exacting requirements not met in ordinary bookmaking. A visit to a modern Bible manufacturing plant can not fail to give one a new sense of appreciation for the beautiful editions of the world's best book now available to the twentieth century reader.

The first step in such a tour of inspection is naturally the composing room. It is here that the type is set up. One learns the astounding fact that in setting up a Bible it is necessary for the compositors to handle 3,566,480 letters, not to mention punctuation marks! Accuracy is secured by proofreading the entire volume seven times. One of the large Bible publishing firms has a standing reward of five dollars paid to the person who first reports a typographical error. This reward, it is said, is seldom earned as errors are remarkably rare.

Not only does the setting up of a Bible involve the handling of an exceptional amount of type matter, but in making the reference editions, the work becomes exceedingly complicated. These editions have a center column containing in the neighborhood of 50,000 references to other chapters and verses and it will readily be seen that this multitude of abbreviations and figures must be accurate. In addition, small letters must be carefully fitted to the words in the text matter which indicate the references to which they apply.

The type matter having been made up into pages, it is then sent to the foundry, where each page is plated. These plates go to the press room, where rows of high-powered machines are ceaselessly printing, eight hours of every working day of the year, in the effort to keep up with the constantly increasing demand for the Bible.

The press room has its own peculiar problems in Bible making. Chief among these being the selection of papers that are most suitable. The printer must find a paper that will result in a fold no bulkier than an ordinary book, and yet the one he is making contains about eight times the number of words in an ordinary length novel. This problem has been partially solved in the use of thin, high grade paper, which, while it is thin, is also opaque and strong.

But even this high grade paper used in the making of the ordinary editions of the Bible has not marked the ultimate improvement in the printing material. A further, and what has been called a revolutionary, step was taken in the use of that extremely thin paper known as Oxford India paper. This paper was first made in India, being introduced to the Western world in 1848. It is so thin that thirteen hundred sheets measure only one inch in thickness. It is remarkable to observe that the print on one side does not show through to the other, even though the paper is so thin.

The flat, printed sheets are then taken to the bindery. Here they are folded and collated, that is, ar-

ranged so that they will follow in order. The next step is the sewing, which is done with a fine quality of Sea Island cotton. The higher priced editions are sewn with silk.

The edges are now trimmed and rounded, colored red and the gold leaf applied, which, when dried is burnished. The sheets are now ready to be cased, that is, covered with whatever material is to be used.

The hides of thousands of animals are used each year in Bible building. Cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and seals are used, only the better portions of each skin being suitable for this purpose. The making of a divinity circuit (overlapping) cover requires great skill and accuracy. The cover is cut to the precise size from a part of the skin which is without blemish and the edge all around is carefully pared so that it may be neatly turned over the lining which may be of paper, linen or leather.

The trimmed and gilded sheets before described are now securely glued to the back of the binding. Securing the sheets to the back in this manner by means of a special glue, re-enforces the back with the strength of the leather and gives that flexibility so desirable in a Bible. A head band, cut to the exact size, is then inserted at the top and bottom of the back of the sheets, adding to the volume's strength and finish.

It has often been remarked that the best grade of leather binding is done abroad. This has been explained by the fact that the foreign binder of today is, in many cases, working at the same bench occupied by his father and grandfather before him. This gives him an inherent skill that endows his product with a degree of finish and excellence that seems attainable in no other way.

It is surprising how much of the work necessary in Bible binding must be done by hand. This is due to the shaping of the turned edge, the great variety of sizes, and the extreme accuracy with which the sheets are fitted into the covers. It is because the covers are so carefully fitted that it is unwise to place papers or other materials in a Bible as this will result in a broken back.

Millions of copies of the Bible are being made in just this manner every year and are finding their way to all parts of the earth, to comfort and inspire the people of every race and clime. What a privilege it is to these workmen not only to do their part in producing volumes so mechanically beautiful, but so beneficent in their influence.

The education measure to compel all children between the ages of 8 and 12 years in Oregon to attend the public schools and none other, will be placed on the ballot at the November election. If it passes it will knock out all private schools which teach children of this age. It will affect principally parochial schools of the Roman Catholics, so the measure will be bitterly fought, and the coming election campaign promises to be one of a most heated description.

**Gratifying**

University of Oregon,  
 Eugene, June 15, 1922  
 Mr. Upton H. Gibbs,  
 Editor Eastern Clackamas News,  
 Estacada, Oregon.

My Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Many thanks for the clipping from your edition of Thursday, June 15, entitled, "A College Education." I am always delighted with the keen interest which you show in the educational work of Oregon and of the kindly attitude which you take to the young men and women launching out upon the sea of life. In your editorial you hit off most happily the situation as they are sure to encounter it. I hope many of them may have the opportunity of receiving the encouragement which you are so generously holding out to them.

With best wishes,  
 Sincerely yours,  
 P. L. CAMPBELL,  
 President.

**Dance**

There will be a dance at Cogswell's hall, Eagle Creek, Saturday, July 1, under the auspices of the W. O. W. Eagle Creek Camp, No. 539.

**Tom Foolery Must End**

A hundred and ten million American citizens witness their congress in session for months at a time, wrangling over the passage of measures which vitally affect our national progress.

They see congress adjourn with most important business unfinished, and they see it reassemble with new members and the whole fight on an important proposition again started.

They have seen this procedure repeated for years at a time while the passage of important measures affecting the life of our leading industries hung in the balance.

If one thing above all others would condemn government ownership and management of any line of industry, this feature of political rag-chewing would be sufficient. Witness today as an example our merchant marine problems. For many years the subject of a ship subsidy has been a political foot ball.

Leaders in congress who are familiar with the situation and who realize the necessity of government co-operation and assistance in fostering our shipping industry are prevented from getting action on such measures due to delays fostered and encouraged by two by four politicians seeking cheap notoriety. Such "representatives" of the people would make our congress into a headless, spineless, and jelly-fish organization for purely political rather than business administration of public affairs.

This do nothing policy of our law makers and their suggestions that further delay in passing ship legislations is probable has forced President Harding to come to the front in no unqualified manner and demand that this matter be settled now.—Ex.

**To Berry Growers**

Through trans-continental rates are to be published on canned goods to all points east, in time to take care of this year's canning of the local factory. In other words, the rate from Estacada should be the same as from Portland to the east. This was announced recently by E. L. Meyers of the P. R. L. & P. Co.'s traffic department.

**To Whom It May Concern:**

In going over the different roads in our district (No. 38) I notice where there have been a number of loads of rubbish carelessly thrown along the roadside and into small streams where they endanger the lives of those who have to use the water for domestic purposes.

Let us all try to think of other people and adjoining districts as well as ourselves, when we have rubbish to dispose of. Our roadsides will be more sightly and the drinking water more sanitary.

Yours for good roads,  
 P. T. MONROE, Supervisor.

**Card of Thanks**

We wish to thank our friends for their kindness during our recent bereavement in the death of our father, also for the beautiful floral offerings.

Glen F. English,  
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**SPECIAL SCHOOL MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the voters of School district No. 108 of Clackamas County, State of Oregon, that a SPECIAL SCHOOL MEETING of said District will be held at Estacada High School, on the seventh day of July, 1922, at 8 o'clock in the afternoon, for the following purpose: To elect one (1) Director to fill the unexpired term of Geo. B. Weatherly.  
 Dated this 17th day of June 1922.  
 ATTEST: F. G. ROBLEY,  
 Chairman Board of Directors,  
 MRS. MYRTLE BELFILLS,  
 District Clerk-  
 6-22-29-7-6

**NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Portland, Oregon, June 5th, 1922.

NOTICE is hereby given that Chester A. Bonebrake, of Colton, Oregon, who, on May 14th 1920, made Homestead Entry No. 06731, for SE 1/4, Section 25, Township 4 S., Range 3 E., Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Three-Year Proof to establish claim to the land above described, before the Register and Receiver of the U. S. Land Office, at Portland, Oregon, on the 26th day of July, 1922.  
 Claimant names as witnesses: Ezra

Stewart, of 863 Ochoa Ave., Portland, Ore.; H. H. Freeman, Colton, Ore.; John Jones, of Colton, Ore.; U. S. Six, of Colton, Ore.  
 Act 6-9-16 and Sec. 2305-R. S.  
 ALEXANDER SWEET, Register.  
 6-15-7-13

**NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Portland, Oregon, May 20th 1922.

NOTICE is hereby given that Frank J. Morrison, of Sandy, Oregon, Box 151, who, on May 10th, 1920, made Homestead Entry, No. 06740; for W 1/2 NW 1/4, Section 15, Township 3 S., Range 5 E., Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make THREE-YEAR Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before the Register and Receiver of the U. S. Land Office, at Portland, Oregon, on the 14th day of July, 1922.

Claimant names as witnesses: Frank Ahnert, of Bissell, Oregon; Lawrence E. Thompson, of Bissell, Oregon; Robert C. Thompson, of Eagle Creek, Oregon; Clyde C. Pilgrim, of Eagle Creek, Oregon.  
 Act 6-9-16 and Sec. 2305-R. S.  
 ALEXANDER SWEET, Register.  
 5-25-6-29



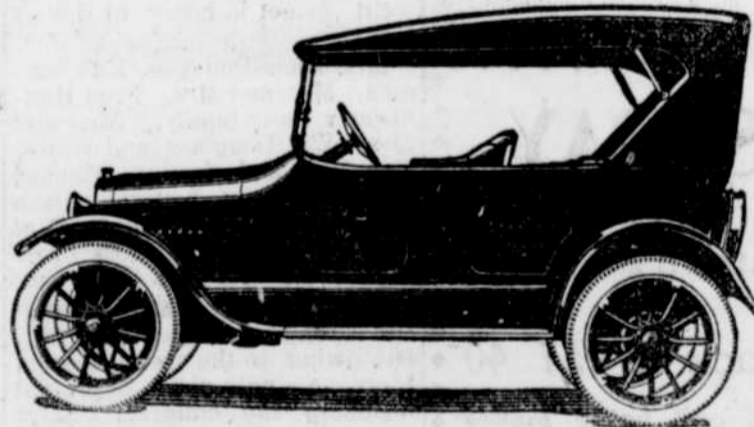
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