

SPRING

This vernal equinox is a very regular matter; nature, with all her vagaries, can be rigidly scientific when she chooses.

March passes as a spring month, though it is two-thirds gone before the zodiacal date. Thus many hail the first of March as the beginning of spring, and point to the robin and the bluebird as confirmation.

There was a logic in the old Julian calendar which began the year with March, as the names of the months, September, October and the rest reveal.

JURIES NEGLECTING DUTY

There is an increasing frequency of jury verdicts—evidently of the compromise variety—to hold criminals guilty in degrees that are manifestly inconsistent with the evidence.

Such compromise cases are compromise of principle. Jurors who permit their sentiment or views relative to the severity and kind of punishment decreed by law to affect their verdict are false to their oaths.

right to allow its consideration to enter into their verdict. The exercise of clemency is not in their province. All that the jury can rightly consider is the evidence and the law of the case as instructed by the court.

THE ROSE FESTIVAL

A great many of our citizens, including the Spectator, believe it would be a blunder to omit this year the Rose Festival, which for so long has attracted throngs of visitors to Portland.

Of this opinion is Julius L. Meier who, on learning of the Rose Festival Association's decision not to hold the blossom fete this year for want of finances, issued a statement in which he said in part:

"Let's have our parade by all means, and our water sports, and our civic center—the wonderful festival center that draws thousands to join in its gaiety and its brilliance. And how much should it take to stage these essential features of the festival? Perhaps \$25,000; and I, for one, feel quite sure of this: let it be but brought home to the people that the lack of \$25,000 will mean abandonment of the festival that has brought such wide fame to Portland, and the amount will be quickly forthcoming."

Mr. Meier reports that many have called him to express their hearty support of his position and of the festival, which should, and probably will, be held again this June.—Spectator.

EXHIBITION OF AMERICAN ART

Variety of treatment and point of view is the outstanding note of the painting by American artists on display at the Portland Art Museum. The portrait by Nicolai Fechin is a marvel of technical skill in the handling of paint and this emphasis upon mastery of the brush appears in other pictures such as the "Lenore Peasant Costume" by Ivan G. Olinsky.

which these pictures come to Portland, is a composition of much distinction.

The Spectator turns from the large painting by Leon Kroll in which the two daughters of the artist, George Bellows, are seen wandering over the hills, perhaps to the small painting by Jerome Myers, in which figures from New York's East Side are seen on an old wharf.

WATKINS FILES FOR SENATE

Below is the platform announced by Elton G. Watkins, Democratic candidate for the U. S. Senate.

Platform in Part Americanism—American life, its purity and perpetuity, is and will ever be the supreme and eternal question confronting the American people. Other issues are ephemeral.

Agriculture—Agricultural relief is pressing; the problem is complex; the remedy is ooted in economics. Efficiency and modern appliances are imperative. Immediate though temporary relief is obtainable by (1) creation of an export agency for surplus crops; (2) revising and rearranging tariff duties and freight rates in the interest of the farming class; (3) exempting all incomes under \$5000; (4) extending the rural free delivery system; (5) increasing the loan limit on farm loan banks; (6) reducing interest rates; (7) building roads; (8) aiding co-operative marketing; (9) prohibiting gambling and speculation in cotton and grain.

Hydro-electric Power Development—The development of hydro-electric power throughout the nation and Oregon in particular is of supreme importance at this time. Our oil, coal and timber are fast disappearing. Increasing demands of industry require additional power, heat and light. The drudgery of our homes should be eliminated. Farm life made attractive. Transportation cheapened. Navigation developed. In fine, constructive conservation prescribed. The Columbia river and its tributaries can be harnessed and made to furnish power for every demand of transportation, every want of industry, every need of home and farm. Herein, too, lies the solution of our irrigation and reclamation questions and the developing of new industries. The problem is national in scope, and must be visualized as great unified transportation systems. The States and Federal government should co-operate together developing and co-ordinating a system in conjunction with our inland waterways so as to attract and develop new industries, conserve other resources, and give to the farms, home, and industries cheaper light, heat and power.

Irrigation and Reclamation—Oregon's irrigation and reclamation projects warrant better treatment. Oregon has paid \$11,675,000 into the reclamation fund and has received \$9,247,000, whereas Washington has contributed \$8,000,000 and has received \$16,169,000, and Idaho has contributed \$6,920,000 and received \$25,550,000. Furthermore the government maintains 23 of its agencies in Seattle. It maintains only five in Portland. Oregon has fared shabbily in other matters. Aggressive senators can do for Oregon what has been done for Idaho and Washington.

Income Taxation—To eliminate duplication, insure uniformity and reduce state taxes on property, the government should collect all income taxes and divide with the state on an equitable basis.

Prohibition—Prohibition is being weighed in the balance. It should remain a permanent policy of the American people because it is morally and economically right. Sober senators are needed in Washington to recommend proper enforcement officials. Furthermore the law should be amended penalizing the purchaser, seller, user and possessor with identical punishment. Viola-

(continued on page 6, col. 5)

OREGON NEWS ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers.

E. F. Carlton of Eugene has been elected executive secretary of the Oregon State Teachers' association.

An epidemic of spinal meningitis at Klamath Falls, which had been practically stamped out, has broken out afresh.

The public service commission denied the petition of the Klamath River Boom company for a franchise on the Klamath river.

W. A. Cannon of Medford was appointed state parole officer to succeed J. V. Starrett, who retired from the office on August 17 of last year.

Blossom day at Salem, which has been an annual event there for several years, probably will be set for April 4. Last year Blossom day was held April 12.

Florence White, 18, of Rogue River, guard on the girls' high school basketball team, sustained a broken right leg in a game with the girls' team of Jacksonville.

Mary Jane Brickley, one of the oldest residents of Oregon, died Sunday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. E. E. Pointer, near Middleton, Or., at the age of 105 years.

With a minimum temperature of 31, thin ice formed on irrigation ditches and frost prevailed over mid-Columbia fruit sections last week. Growers, however, reported no damage.

The state treasurer drew a warrant in the amount of \$472,215 covering interest due in New York city April 1 on \$23,000,000 of bonds issued and sold by the state bonds commission.

Announcement was made at an efficiency meeting of the Coos Bay Lumber company officials and workers that the company would adopt the 4-L minimum wage basis of \$3.40 April 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Schollars of Medford observed the 54th anniversary of their wedding. Schollars is 80 years old and his wife 85. He has been a resident of Oregon and Idaho since 1866.

Freddie Richert, 9, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Richert, residents of Twomile, near Bandon, died in Bandon hospital from burns sustained while lighting a fire in the family kitchen stove with kerosene.

The Mount Hood irrigation district is seeking approval of a contract whereby the district would take over the Mount Hood Water company's water rights and irrigation system at a cost of \$7600.

The 7-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lambert, residents at the Snelstrom mill, five miles west of Crow, was burned to death when the house in which she was sleeping was destroyed by fire.

Postal savings bank deposits at Portland decreased \$1632 in February. The depositors' balance at Portland is \$1,416,108, by which the bank there continues to rank ninth in the country in volume of deposits.

The Southern Pacific company began preliminary work of erecting a new bridge across the Willamette river at Springfield to be used by the main line trains when the Natron cutoff is completed this summer.

Umpqua river jetty work was suspended when the money which the port was furnishing became exhausted. The jetty lacks about 2500 feet of being extended to a point where shoaling would be eliminated.

Gladstone voted, 198 to 41, to amend the city charter permitting the bonding of the city in excess of the prescribed limit, with the view of extending the water system to connect with the Portland Bull Run supply.

Substantial reductions in the rates of the Yamhill Electric company which recently acquired the capital stock of the Tualatin Valley Electric company, were announced at the offices of the public service commission in Salem.

Kiwanis clubmen landscaped the Clackamas county courthouse grounds at Oregon City. Ornamental shrubs were planted and a general plan of beautification followed out designed by Oregon Agricultural college experts.

Discontinuance of street car service between Eugene and Springfield will take effect this week, according to an announcement by officials of the Southern Pacific company in Eugene. Buses are to be used for passenger service between the two cities.

Delegations of Indians from the Umatilla Indian reservation, accompanied by Senator Charles L. McNary, have tried repeatedly during the last three years to get the bureau of Indian affairs at Washington to re-establish the Indian industrial school at Pendleton without success, and any attempt to substitute the desired school for the proposed sanitarium is believed by McNary to be useless.

Say you saw it in the News.

UNION OF LODGES

The Golden Rule Hive No. 17 and Queen Elizabeth Hive No. 24 of the Women's Benefit association of Portland, Oregon, have consolidated with headquarters at the Odd Fellow's Temple at 10th and Salmon streets. This will be known as Oregon Review No. 6, and will meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. These two hives, of L. O. T. M. will hold a district rally May 19th, at the Odd Fellow's Temple, when it is expected the supreme officer will be present with words of good cheer for the benefit of the order.

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PORTLAND-CARVER-ESTACADA STAGES

Table with columns for destination (Portland, Clackamas, Carver, Barton, Eagle Creek, Ar. Estacada), departure times (A.M., P.M., P.M.), and arrival times (A.M., M.P.M., P.M., A.M.). Includes notes about daily service and Sunday exceptions.

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