

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

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FRED STEIWER, STATESMAN

The passing of Fred Steiwer, ex-U. S. senator from Oregon, last week explains something that many of us had never understood, why he resigned as senator when he was yearly becoming more prominent as a republican leader in the nation. He was suffering from what is as yet an incurable disease and knew definitely that his days were numbered. The ex-senator, who was 58 years of age, was a real man, a tried and true friend, whose passing is not only a loss to Oregon but to the entire United States.

THE "WHY" OF FROZEN CAPITAL

Reference is often made these days to "frozen capital" as largely to blame for unemployment and business depression. Many people, no doubt, wonder just what frozen capital is, why it exists and why it is so closely tied in with our current economic ills.

Everybody knows that "capital" means money and that "frozen," in this sense, means inactivity. A good answer to the "why" is found in a recent nation-wide survey of potential investors. (Anyone with a savings account is a potential investor.)

The survey, conducted by the National Association of Manufacturers, asked this question: "Do you have money available which you could invest and would like to invest, but which you do not care to invest at the present time?" The reply of 75.1 per cent was "yes."

The 75.1 per cent was then asked to indicate why they did not want to invest now. Here are some of the answers: Inadequate present profits and doubtful future profits because of possible new legislation, existing taxes, prospects of new taxes, labor trouble and international troubles.

Factors that would create a willingness to invest were also listed. These were: Improved government policies and attitudes affecting business, changes in government spending and budget policies, less government competition with business, reduced taxes, and a change in federal labor legislation.

Remembering, now, that business must have money on which to operate if it is to give jobs and pay salaries, it should be easier for everybody to understand why it is frozen.

Fragments

This is the time of year the lazy gardener enjoys more than any other season—when he can read the new seed catalogues and day dream of the garden's beauty, comfortable in an easy chair by the fireside and with no lame back nor sore knees, which he will have to endure within a few weeks now if he is a gardener in more than a name only. The flowers which bloom in February in the mind's eye attain a perfection not granted to those of June and July.

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58

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just as an old maid's imaginary children are better mannered than the flesh and blood ones of her neighbors.

The state of Texas now has two sets of quadruplets, the fourth set in the United States. Some wisecracker suggested a white back that multiple births was old Dame Nature's way of circumventing the practice of birth control.

The outcry of the Italian and Japanese press over President Roosevelt's foreign policy sounds like the small boy's cry of "unfair" when his own underhand tricks are turned against him; nor do we mean to imply there was anything wrong in the president's help of France and England by this criticism of the fascist states.

Good news for the fisherman is that nylon, the new du Pont product which will replace real silk in the manufacture of hosiery next year, may also be used for fishing lines which will be not only tough but as strong as steel of the same diameter.

Among other new products is one from England, a cloth of gold which can be sold for \$2.50 a yard, and another from this country is an artificial wool, costing only fifty cents a pound.

The institutes of technology in this country are the fairylands of the twentieth century. A month does not pass without the announcement of some new discovery or invention in the chemical, commercial, industrial or drug field, which will enrich life for all of us. The kings of old never enjoyed the conveniences nor pleasures which the least privileged of our citizens now take for granted.

Now they have a machine which talks like a man. Shucks, that's nothing, we've known plenty of women who talked like a machine.

The new deal is calling Thomas E. Dewey a publicity seeker because he unearthed evidence in the recent scandals in New York before official Washington knew anything about them. The justice department doesn't like it because Dewey didn't take it into his confidence when he began investigations which have resulted in exposures of the Whitney stock exchange scandal, the Coster-Musica fiasco and now the Judge Manton case.

When election returns came in last November, we were ready with a huzzah for Dewey for the great race he made for the governorship of New York. We have a premonition that two years hence we will again be crying, "Hurrah for Dewey," but that then it will not be for a defeat of a governorship race—it will be for President Dewey!

Did you know:

That Crater Lake was the second deepest lake in the world, Lake Baikal in Siberia only being deeper.

That Japan's war bill is \$4,000,000 a day. The United States' present peace expenditures amount to \$20,000,000 daily.

That three of Queen Victoria's nine children are still living, the oldest being ninety years of age.

That a bronze plaque of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address hangs at Oxford and is considered one of the most perfect examples of English prose.

One hundred and thirty years ago next Sunday, Abraham Lincoln was born. That he was appreciated by his contemporaries may be gleaned from the following extracts of an essay written by James Russell Lowell soon after Lincoln's death:

"We are glad that . . . we have had at the head of our affairs a man whom America made, as God made Adam, out of the very earth, unancestried, unprivileged, unknown, to show us how much truth, how much magnanimity, and how much statecraft await the call of opportunity in simple manhood when it believes in the justice of God and the worth of man. . . ."

"A civilian during times of the most captivating military achievement, awkward, with no skill in the lower technicalities of manners, he left behind him a fame beyond that of any conqueror, the memory of a grace higher than that of outward person, and of a gentleness deeper than mere breeding."



With the legislature now in its fifth week and none of its big problems any ways near solution predictions are being freely made that the session will run at least 50 days and some offering to bet that it will be nearer the 60th day before the lawmakers adjourn and depart for their several homes.

Much criticism is heard about the capitol corridors over the delay in

TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from the files of the Sentinel of Feb. 14, 1919):

Miss Eva Schreder, of the local military board, went to Portland this morning to check up on delinquent Coos county men who have not complied with government requirements in connection with the war measures. She was sent there by Assessor Jess Beyers.

E. A. Folsom returned last Monday afternoon from a two months' visit with his wife at Modesto, Calif. Mrs. Folsom is down there caring for her mother.

Sgt. Frank Norris returned to Portland this week after being released from the battlefields of France, where he was confined due to flu in an army hospital and was among the first in the contingent released from the hospitalization.

V. R. Wilson announces that he will be at his office on Taylor street every day this week.

The statement given last week about the Sitka mill contribution indicated that the men raised \$62.50 for this fund benefit.

County Agent J. L. Smith tells the story of Ellis Barker, of Fairview, a 12-year-old boy, who imported two registered Berkshire pigs—an investment of \$40.00. His pigs now have a litter of eight little pigs and worth eight times the price of their father and mother.

Pheasant Northwest Products com-

bringing out the big bills. This criticism is not directed at the legislators but at outside groups and state departments interested in special legislation and which are sponsoring measures they want acted on at this session.

The interim commission on state and local revenues, for instance, has only just released its findings and recommendations. Appointed under authority of a resolution passed by the 1937 session this commission was supposed to make a study of the revenue situation and to bring in a report for the guidance of this session. This report should have been in the hands of the legislators before the session convened in order that the lawmakers might have opportunity to study its contents and to act with some degree of intelligence upon its recommendations. Instead of that it was not made available until the 25th day of the session at a time when all the other big problems are crowding to the front and demanding attention.

The education bills, likewise, have been unaccountably delayed in their appearance. Sponsored jointly by the State Teachers Association and the State Department of Education and some of them at least bearing the blessing of the state administration, these proposed reforms have been under consideration for months and in justice to the legislators who will soon be sojourning in Salem at their own expense, should have been introduced much earlier in the session.

The public power group, likewise, has added to the chaos and confusion of the closing weeks of the session by withholding the debut of its PUD child until the fourth week of the session was well under way. While the excuse of this group for their tardiness is that they wanted to iron out some of the rough edges in their program, it is admitted that this objective was not attained and that the measure introduced into the senate hopper is no nearer perfection than it was a month ago.

Otherwise the session is far ahead of previous sessions in its record of performance. More bills have been introduced and a larger percentage of those introduced have been disposed of than was the case in 1937 session so that if the session drags out for 50 or 60 days the blame, if any, should be placed on the procrastinating sponsors of these big bills and not on the lawmakers themselves, most of whom are anxious to adjourn just as quickly as they can decently do so.

A gross income tax ranging from one-fourth of one per cent on wholesalers and manufacturers up to two per cent on retail businesses was recommended by the interim commission on state and local revenues in its report released this week. Revenues from such a tax, estimated at \$6,500,000 a year, would go toward support of the social security program, with the counties sharing in its apportionment to the end that property levies might be proportionately reduced. Other recommendations in the report of the interim commission include a property tax on automobiles, better equalization of school taxes, tax conservation and supervising boards for the several counties, administration of public as-

pany of Salem has started intense interest in berry culture and growing with prospects of a cannery and crusher here if the people will go into the berry industry and take advantage of the natural inclinations Coos county has for a berry industry.

The recall meeting of the Coos county taxpayers association at Marshfield went ahead this week and it is expected that Commissioner Archie Philip and Judge Watson will undergo a recall test after the matter was continually delayed and almost dropped at times.

The auction of Pinkston & Young cattle on the ranch at Fishtrap last week brought success. There was \$6,247.85 raised in the sale of the cattle and the hay. An average of \$94.57 was paid for cows, while \$215.00 was the highest price paid for any animal—this was a thoroughbred sold to A. Kellenberger. Fedele Arami bought the hay for \$29.00 per ton—he had purchased the ranch.

R. H. Sweet has purchased the cleaning shop formerly operated by Fred Slagle. He promises an aggressive and serviceable business institution.

J. D. Carl, of Arago, recently purchased of Noah Black, of Reedsport, his fine bull, Merry Golden Lad. His sire is Merry Miss's Son and his dam is Golden Grand Olga. This bull which Mr. Carl bought is famous. In one herd he sired 15 grade daughters, which averaged 466.45 lbs. of butterfat in ten months on grass alone.

assistance through a state public welfare commission, consolidation of the offices of county assessor and tax collector, and state assessment of timber lands.

Rumors of a complete re-organization of the state highway commission are current about the capitol. Governor Sprague has already indicated that he intends to appoint Herman Oliver, of John Day, to succeed E. B. Aldrich, of Pendleton, when the latter resigns as he is expected to do soon. Earl B. Day, county judge of Jackson county, is now understood to be the governor's choice as successor to F. L. TouVelle, of Jacksonville, when the latter's term expires next month. But the big surprise, if current rumor materializes into reality, will be the retirement of Henry F. Cabell, of Portland, present chairman of the commission, who will be succeeded by H. B. Van Duzer, of Portland, a former member of the commission. In the event of this predicted re-organization of the highway commission, it is also expected that R. H. Baldock will retire as state highway engineer, probably in favor

of C. B. McCullough, present assistant engineer.

Sponsored by Representatives French, of Sherman; Semon, of Klamath, and Snyder, of Lake, a bill providing for managerial form of government for Oregon counties was introduced into the house this week. Under the proposed reform a board of five members would be elected in each county. This board would determine policies and levy taxes. It would also employ a county manager who, in turn, would employ necessary assistants in carrying on the functions of county government now performed by the clerk, assessor, recorder, judge, sheriff and other officials. The proposal is meeting with much favorable comment among the lawmakers but is expected to meet with strenuous opposition at the hands of county officials whose jobs would be endangered if the plan is adopted.

County judges and commissioners appearing before the legislative ways and means committee this week demanded a share in liquor profits or that the state take over a larger share of the relief load. Earl B. Day, county judge of Jackson county and president of the state association of county judges, and commissioners, told the committee that the counties were at the end of their financial rope and no longer able to carry on with the relief program. With the constitutional six per cent limit restricting tax levies and relief needs taking the lions share of county taxes, Day told the committee, ordinary county functions, especially road maintenance, have been greatly un-

der-financed during the past few years.

The manner of disposing of bonds to be issued by peoples utility districts promises to provide the big hurdle in the proposed revision of the PUD act. Sponsors of the so-called Grange bill favor sale of PUD bonds through private negotiations with a liberal commission to go to the negotiator. This plan also has the support of J. D. Ross, Bonneville administrator, and his assistants several of whom are taking an active part in support of the measure introduced into the senate this week by Senator Ross and others. This proposal, however, does not meet with the approval of Governor Sprague, who believes that bonds issued by these utility districts should be offered for sale to the highest bidder. Peter Zimmerman, former state senator from Yamhill county and an active member of the public power group, is also opposed to the private sale proposal and has drafted a bill of his own, covering this feature, which has been introduced by Senator Burke. A third PUD bill by Representative Hosch has been introduced in the house.

It was moving day last week for a number of state departments, assigned to quarters in the new library building. Included among the movers were the state library which will occupy most of the building; the department of education and the department of vocational education, which occupy quarters on the first floor and the World War Veterans state aid commission which occupies an entire wing on the top floor.

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