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GOVERNOR WANTS A STRICT SAVING

State Departments Advised to Cut Expenses—Large Deficit Looms.

A Salem special to the Morning Oregonian says strict economy in the conduct of all state activities is urged in a letter prepared by Governor Meier. Copies of the letter will be sent to the heads of all state departments, boards, commissions and institutions.

"According to the state budget commissioner," read Governor Meier's letter, "the state deficit now approximates $3,000,000. This amount represents a material increase over the preceding biennium and emphasizes the absolute need of retrenchment in state expenditures.

"It follows, of course, that this retrenchment must be general, and the purpose of this communication is to urge you to make a careful survey of your operating expenses with a view of curtailing wherever possible. Among the more important items of expense deserving close scrutiny are payrolls, traveling expenses, telegraps, telephone, postage and supplies in general.

"Figures prepared by the state budget commissioner disclose that the payroll for the state for the previous biennium totaled $16,853,039. In addition to an apparent lack of uniformity in salaries paid, there are departments where the payroll has been padded and employes are incompetent.

"The figures of the budget commissioner further disclose that the traveling and subsistence expenses for the state during the previous biennium totalled $1,165,685, telephone and telegraph expense $127,597, postage $197,215, stationery and printing $166,285, and general office supplies $61,842.

"From investigations made of outside travel requisitions submitted to me since assuming the office of governor, I am convinced that travel expenditures by various state departments and other activities have been extravagant and wasteful, not only outside of the state but within its borders.

"Sound business principles and economy should govern the administration of state affairs as well as private business, and I am convinced that if the same strict economy is practiced in state affairs as in private business, public expenditures can be greatly curbed and the state can be saved much money during the current biennium.

"The state has been confronted with a steadily increasing deficit for several years and by slashing expenditures to the bone we can accomplish much toward wiping out this deficiency. By applying business methods and practicing rigid economy you can help to transfer the financial affairs of the state from the red to the black column on the ledger."

Athletic Association Is Behind Baseball Team

At a meeting Wednesday evening of the Athena Athletic Association, the organization got behind the Athena entrant in the four-team baseball league, and spotted it with a $75 dollar boost for equipment, etc. This financial help will obviate the proposal to solicit funds to get the team under way.

Arnold Wood was named as manager of the team, with Henry Dell acting as assistant manager. The player personnel of the Athena team is not complete, but with immediate active practice and tryouts in the offing the lineup will soon be announced.

The league will comprise teams representing Indian Mission, Helix, Umatilla and Athena. The playing schedule will begin Sunday, April 12, with Athena probably at Helix and the Mission Indians at Umatilla.

County Tournament

E. C. Prestbye is in receipt of a letter from the secretary of the Pendleton golf club, extending an invitation to local players to visit the Pendleton links Sunday, April 5, for the purpose of contesting in the annual county tournament to be held at that time. A number of Athena players participated in the county tournament last year and the occasion afforded them a royal good time.

Receives High Award

Competing against representatives selected from 31 other schools of law in the United States, Frances E. Coad, Eugene, third year law student at the University of Oregon, has been awarded a fellowship in law at Columbia University. He is a son of E. E. Coad, who last year was superintendent of the Athena schools.

High Class Acting Is Witnessed in School Vodvil

The high school vodvil given under direction of Mr. and Mrs. Bloom at the auditorium Thursday and Friday evenings of last week was splendid entertainment for the two large audiences that witnessed both presentations.

It is doubtful whether any superior amateur acting ever took place on the auditorium stage than was presented by the cast in the one-act drama, "The Valiant," written by Holworthy Hall and Robert Middlemas. The almost perfect delineation of their roles by Stafford Hansell, the warden—Solista Pickett, the priest—Roland Wilson, the prisoner—Betty Eager, the girl, and George Pittman, the jailor, held the intense interest of the audience throughout. Roland Wilson, especially, gave a superb bit of acting, and collectively the cast responded to the diligent and masterful direction given it by Mr. Bloom.

The Pirates scene ushered in elaborate costuming and good singing. Directed by Mrs. Bloom, the chorus by mixed glee clubs was nothing short of very, very good, while the boys glee club in the Pirate Song and the girls glee club in Caballero, were enthusiastically received.

Marjorie Douglas pleased in her dance and an electrifying climax was "The Death Defying Apache," with Emery Rogers as Jaques, the man and Jack Moore, Coquette, the woman.

Dan Tilley and his band delighted the audience in "A Hawaiian Garden," with very well rendered selections, considering the band has been organized only since the beginning of school.

Ralph Moore and Garth Pinkerton were good in two duets, Sweet Jennie Lee and An Old Fashioned Girl. Mildred Hansell impersonated the Girl and Howard Reeder made a typical old fashioned Beau.

In the Hawaiian Garden scene, Helen Barrett appeared to advantage as the Hawaiian Girl, with Fred Singre as the Boy.

Garth Pinkerton was ill for the second night's performance, so bedad, Ralph Moore hopped atop the piano, a la Helen Morgan, and in good voice gave the audience Sweet Jennie Lee, and An Old Fashioned Girl was sung by Mrs. Bloom.

Following is the glee clubs' personnel:

Sopranos—Marjorie Montague, Valerie Cannon, Mary Jane Miller, Mary Tompkins, Dorothy Burke, Bernice Wilson, Bonnie Alkire, Esther Berlin, Goldie Miller, Myrtle Campbell.

Altos—Marjorie Douglas, Arleen Myrick, Lorra Ross, Velma Ross, Georgie Green, Ilene McBride.

Baritones—Stafford Hansell, Harold Kirk, Walter Huffman, Lester Towne, George Miller, Glenn McCullough, Ralph Moore, Garth Pinkerton, Fred Singer, Arthur Crowley, Bennie Marquis, Wayne Banister, George Pittman. Accompanist—Betty Eager.

Band personnel: Trumpet, Walter Singer; trombones, Garth Pinkerton, Ralph Moore, Leo Geissel; baritone, Kenneth Rogers; bass, Gail Zerba; clarinets, Marjorie Douglas, Emery Rogers, Billy Johns; saxophones, Leland Jenkins, Lester Towne; violin, Aaron Douglas; drum, Bennie Marquis; piano, Marjorie Montague. Band director, Dan Tilley.

Methodist Society

The Methodist Society met at the home of Mrs. Gordon Watkins, Wednesday afternoon. The topic for consideration was "Youth and the Movies" and was in charge of Mrs. Frank Williams who ably presented it. Twenty-four members were present and the following guests, Mrs. R. D. Blatchford, Mrs. Kohler Betts, Mrs. Bruno Weber and Mrs. Theresa Berlin, the latter adding her name to the membership list. A social hour followed the program and refreshments were served by Mrs. Charles McFarland, Mrs. Frank Williams and Mrs. J. D. Huggins. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. W. O. Read.

Circle Meeting

A called meeting of Circle number 10, Women of Wooderaft occurred at Pythian Hall Wednesday night. The members balloted, and the following were elected to membership: Mrs. Don Wilks, and Mrs. Leon Miller. Mrs. Sarah Rowland, district organizer was present. Plans were made for a joint meeting with the Weston Circle to occur Tuesday evening, April 7, in Athena. The visitors will put on the work and a special program followed by supper will be features of the entertainment. The Circle will meet Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Stella Keen.

College Band en Tour

Using two motor stages for transportation, the Oregon State college band, is touring Eastern Oregon, going as far east as Ontario. The band gave an excellent concert at Pendleton, Saturday evening.

WATSON DEMANDS EQUALIZATION FEE

Following Board's Decision, He Advances a Plan of Surplus Disposal.

Washington.—A renewed demand for the equalization fee plan of disposing of agricultural surpluses was voiced by republican leader Watson of the senate in the wake of the farm board's announcement that it would purchase none of the 1931 wheat crop.

Senator Watson long has been an advocate of the equalization fee, which as a feature of the McNary-Haugen bill was vetoed by former President Coolidge.

Discussing the effect of the farm board's announcement, Watson said: "We have got to have the equalization fee. That appears to be the only remedy."

The Indiana senator said he did not believe in the export debenture, which the farm group supported in the last congress in the face of opposition from President Hoover.

He added he did not know what would be done with the more than 200,000,000 bushels of wheat accumulated by farm board agencies, but said he had been informed that one third of it already had deteriorated to such an extent it could only be used for cattle feed.

The farm board holdings, Watson said, constitute a "menace" to the market because they have driven the speculator out of it.

"The speculator helped largely to make the price of wheat," he said. Adding it would be desirable to restore speculation.

Senator Couzens, republican, Michigan, said the "equalization fee, debenture or any other artificial method" would not solve the surplus question.

The situation would never right itself, he thought, until the farmer is able to sell more directly and to spread out his crop sales over a long period, instead of dumping all his wheat on the market after harvest and accepting whatever price middlemen were willing to pay.

Asked if he thought the farm board should be discontinued, Couzens said there were many other functions for the board besides buying and selling surplus commodities.

Abandonment by the Farm Board of its wheat stabilization operations threw open the old question of dealing with the farm surplus and brought immediate demands for the equalization fee.

The time worn battle cry around which farm relief advocates rallied as they marched the old McNary-Haugen bill through congress to its death veto by President Coolidge was sounded almost simultaneously by senate leaders and a farm organization leader.

Senator McNary of Oregon, whose name was attached to the original farm bill which carried the fee, joined republican leader Watson in proposing it again.

Chester H. Gray, legislative representative of the American Farm Bureau federation predicted the next congress would strip the farm board of its power to attempt to stabilize prices and substitute instead either the equalization fee or the debenture plan.

McNary, who is chairman of the senate agriculture committee, expressed the opinion that the equalization fee was the most "practical method yet devised for segregation of the surplus."

Baseball Tomorrow

Eldon Myrick is bringing his Sigma Chi baseball team from Whitman to Athena tomorrow afternoon for a workout contest with "Pike" Miller's high school hopefuls. The game will start somewhere around 2 p. m. and will be the first of the season on the local grounds. Friday next week, Athena goes to Helix to open the district schedule with Bill King's Grizzlies. Athena high is in a district league in which the high schools of Helix, Adams and Umapine are represented.

Dr. Blatchford Returns

Dr. R. D. Blatchford returned home from Salem, Wednesday. Dr. Blatchford was an interested spectator at all games played in the state basketball tournament, and The Press is indebted to him for the summary report of both the championship and consolation series, published in another column.

Death of Mrs. Tubbs

Mrs. W. S. Tubbs, mother of Clarence Tubbs, well known farmer residing south of Athena, died this week in The Dalles at the age of 62. She is survived by her husband and the following children: Clarence Tubbs, Mrs. Clough of The Dalles, Mrs. C. W. Carlson of Kelso and Willard Tubbs of The Dalles.

Prices of Wheat Take a Plunge To New Lows

Chicago.—Wheat prices on the Chicago market dropped to low ground unknown since 1895 Monday, sagging 3 to 11 cents a bushel on 1931 crop options.

The crash followed announcement by the farm board that it would not attempt to maintain prices by stabilization operations beyond the month of May, when the 1930 crop passes from dealing. Action of the market was contrary to the expressed option of George S. Milnor, president of the Grain Stabilization Corporation, that the news constituted a bullish factor in the market.

July wheat, representing contracts on the new crop unprotected by stabilization buying, collapsed from Saturday's closing figure of 62½-¼ to 59¾ cents, the lowest in 36 years. June delivery, in which there is little trading, dropped 11 cents.

At Minneapolis, prices for future deliveries of wheat slumped to the lowest level on the grain market there in more than six months.

The drop followed announcement by the government sponsored farm board that stabilization operations would end after the 1930 crop had been disposed of.

Wheat for July delivery there fell two cents to 66⅝ cents after the Saturday close of 68⅛. September wheat sold one to one and a half cents off, touch 60⅛.

Flour prices on the Minneapolis market dropped 25 cents a barrel, skidding from Saturday's closing quotation of $5.10 to $4.85 for family patents. However, a large concern emphatically denied the farm board announcement had anything to do with the decrease.

Athena Camp Fire Girls Attend the Grand Council

About thirty local Campfire Girls motored to Walla Walla Saturday night at attend the Grand Council fire at the armory.

The occasion was the 19th birthday anniversary of the organization and the affair was participated in by about four hundred girls from 31 groups. Twenty-three of these were Walla Walla groups, two were Bluebird groups and the remaining six were from Athena, Milton, Freewater, Touchet, Wallula, Waitsburg and Two Rivers. A representative audience of parents and friends were present for the ceremony.

The processional was led by members bearing the American and campfire flags and followed by those of the British Empire, Argentina, Bulgaria, Japan, China, Mexico and Peru where Campfire organizations are active. "International friendship" was thus emphasized and is the theme of study for the year.

Ranks of torch bearer, fire maker and wood gatherer, were awarded. The program was conducted under the leadership of Miss Florence Craven, Campfire executive of Walla Walla. Local people furnishing cars for the trip included Mrs. Laurence Pinkerton, Mr. and Mrs. Don Wilks, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Jenkins, Mrs. Marion Hansell, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Eager, Mrs. Bert Logsdon and Mr. and Mrs. A. A. McIntyre.

Seriously Injured Neck

William Kaser, employed at the Washington - Idaho Seed company cleaning and grading plant on lower Main street, sustained serious injury to his neck in an accident which occurred Wednesday of last week. Kaser was trucking sacks of peas across the warehouse floor when he slipped and fell, his head striking the floor. Resulting pain in his neck caused him to go to Walla Walla, where examination revealed a slight fracture of a vertebra. He was treated by Dr. Cowan and is now wearing a suitable brace. He is able to be up and around. Mr. Kaser makes his home at Mrs. Burden's boarding house.

Sheepshearer Visits

Joe Lieuallen was in town Monday from Walla Walla. Joe has long been one of those dependable sheepshearers who, with the coming of spring migrates to the sheep camps and returneth later with a bagfull of shining simoleons—more or less. He and John Stanton will pool activities in relieving sheep on the farms hereabouts and in the Walla Walla section of their fleeces, before going to their "big time" jobs.

Work at Well Progressing

The work on the new extension of the wing feeder to the city well is progressing under supervision of Councilman J. W. Pinkerton. Several feet in length of the excavation caved in at 6 o'clock yesterday morning. Fortunately the men were not at work, or there might have been serious consequences to record. That portion of the wing was more than half filled with dirt from the cavein.

Scrapping the World's Shortest Railroad

What was said to be the shortest railroad in the world, running for one and one-half miles between the docks and warehouses on Governors island, has been condemned by the United States army and torn up. Built during the war to transport stores and machinery on the island, the railway, with the official name, Governors Island railroad, gradually decreased in usefulness.

Pendleton Buckaroos Bring Championship to Eastern Part of State

The Pendleton Buckaroo basketball team, for the first time in the history of the state tournament, brought the championship to Eastern Oregon, when in a hectic overtime period it defeated Salem 31-29.

With the teams tied at 29, Salem plunged in at a terrific pace but the Buckaroos, masters of a perfect checking system held them until Witherall, guard substitute, loped one through from a difficult angle for the final score.

Pendleton was equalled on floor work by Salem at all stages of the thrilling contest and it was the almost perfect shooting of free throws that decided the contest. Out of 13 chances Pendleton converted nine, while Salem had the same number but scored only three.

The tournament was the most successful yet held and the attendance was considerably larger than in former years. Following is a complete resume of the elimination scoring:

Championship series—Pendleton 43, Tillamook 14; Jefferson 33, Astoria 28; Baker 30, Monmouth 26; Benson 35, Pleasant Hill 19; Ashland 42, The Dalles 19; Salem 31, Myrtle Point 17; Jefferson 31, Baker 21; Benson 24, Ashland 22; Pendleton 39, Jefferson 15; Salem 25, Benson 13. Championship game: Pendleton 31, Salem 29.

Consolation series — Astoria 21, Monmouth 20; Pleasant Hill 29, The Dalles 31; Tillamook 28, Myrtle Point 16; Baker 23, Ashland 22; Astoria 49, The Dalles 11; Baker 28, Tillamook 21; Astoria 36, Jefferson 18; Benson 28, Baker 15. Consolation winner; Astoria 30, Benson 23.

First team selection—McLean, Benson and Palmberg, Astoria, forwards; Kidder, Pendleton, center; Sanford, Salem and Ralph Terjeson, Pendleton, guards.

Prize Fishing Rod Is Center of Attraction

The season's new stock of fishing tackle is on display at the Rogers & Goodman hardware store. It includes a gorgeous array of flies, spinners, spoons, rods, reels, lines, leaders and baskets. The center of attraction, however, is a fine fly rod which the firm offers for the longest trout caught in Umatilla county by an angler residing in the Athena district, including Adams and Weston.

For several years Rogers & Goodman have awarded prize rods for the largest trout taken from Umatilla county streams. Last year the prize went to Arthur Jenkins who took a whale of a rainbow from the Umatilla river, near Thorn Hollow. Dick Swift was runnerup with a fine rainbow caught in the Umatilla, near Nolin in the west part of the county.

The year before, John Hager of Gibbon, took the prize rod with a dolly varden caught in Mill creek, in the east end of the county.

Will Kirk Reseeding

Will Kirk, who farms extensively on the high ground southest of Athena is compelled to reseed his wheat crop on account of freezing out. Mr. Kirk has 600 acres in crop and the greater portion of it will require reseeding. Conditions different to those applicable to lower ground have been in evidence for some time. During the night the soil has been freezing and a crust would raise, exposing the plant roots. This process, it is said, caused the destruction of the growing plant. Crop conditions in the immediate vicinity of Athena are considered as being very favorable, and no reseeding is anticipated.

Got the Lash

John Kowalski a Baltimore blacksmith, convicted of beating his ill wife, was given ten lashes with a cat o'nine tails whip by Sheriff Joseph Deegan in the Baltimore jail.

Robert Morrison Dead

Robert Morrison, a pioneer of this county, formerly residing near Adams, died Monday at Long Beach, California, aged 67. Mr. Morrison was a sufferer from heart disease, but the immediate cause of death was pneumonia. Mr. Morrison was born in New Zealand. He is survived by his widow, one sister, Mrs. J. O. Hales of Pendleton and the following brothers: Richard Morrison of Weston; William Morrison of Moro and G. M. Morrison of Adams.

Nurses to Give Dance

The nurses of St. Anthony's hospital at Pendleton, will give their annual ball at the Fletcher ball room in that city on Tuesday evening, April 7. Four nurses from the hospital were in Athena Saturday selling admission tickets.

Business Men Will Breakfast at Hotel

Athena business men will be invited to breakfast at Athena Hotel Wednesday morning at 8 o'clock, by the landlady, Mrs. Laura Froome. Invitational announcements will be received through the mail.

The breakfast is being sponsored by Mrs. Froome with the view to bringing the business men of Athena together for a social hour, and she is being assisted in arrangements by C. E. O. Montague.

There will be a program and a toastmaster will preside at the breakfast table. In the nature of a goodwill meeting, short talks will be made on subjects by those who may be called upon to speak. The affair is to be entirely informal

Education and the State

Live Discussions on Vital Phases of Oregon Welfare

By Dr. Arnold Bennett Hall
President, University of Oregon

Editor's note: This is the second of a series of five articles written on education by Dr. Arnold Bennett Hall, president of the University of Oregon. Others will follow at regular intervals.

As habits of critical thinking are essential to an effective democracy, so are they essential to the intelligent planning of one's own life. How many students have drifted into certain professions merely because their parents happened to be so engaged or because their friends were or through so other accident or caprice? How many young people fail to accomplish successfully the tasks they undertake merely because they do not make any serious attempt to analyze the nature of their task, their own aptitudes, abilities, and analyze the nature of their own efforts?

Habits of critical thinking, of accurate observation applied to the commonplace affairs of life would yield dividends both of material and spiritual happiness that could scarcely be exaggerated.

Problem Recognized

The University recognizes this problem and is trying to reorganize its courses and ideas and teaching methods so that they will train students in habits of critical thinking rather than in merely memorizing the contents of a course. The University is now carrying on experiments in the relative efficiency of different methods of attaining this end. A good deal of attention is being given by certain teachers to the development of the "problem" or "project" method. Here the emphasis is upon problem solving. The students are given certain problems as practical and realistic as they can be made. These problems require analysis, careful thinking, and the exercise of sound judgment in the application of principles. Students are encouraged not to accept their textbook as Gospel truth, but to attack it critically, seeking to detect any possible flaws and trying to use it as a means of developing their own critical powers.

The spirit we are trying to generate is more the spirit of curiosity, of research, of fact-finding, than it is of memorizing the statements of authorities, however profound and valuable they may be.

This sometimes occasions dissension in the home. Under these principles of instruction students often begin to find that they differ with political or economic or social theories that they have held before. It is a test of the parents' real breadth of vision and real devotion to their children when they come home from the University and begin to differ with parents about some of the current problems of life. Recently a parent said to me, "Your University has ruined my child. It has changed his politics. He now differs with us on many problems where we know we are right."

If this parent were correct, then he should not have sent his son to the University, because it is the business of a university not to teach the student to think as the professors think or to think as the parents think, but to think independently, to think honestly, and to seek the truth fearlessly. When this is done, if the students have any individuality of their own, it is almost inevitable that they will find themselves in occasional conflict with some of the traditional thinking of their parents.

Discussion Urged

This should be an occasion for mutual counsel and intelligent discussion in the family circle. The habit of thinking that has been established at the University should be encouraged. Mistaken views, the result of an inadequate or an immature conception of the facts, may be righted, not by the authority of the home, but by the persuasive power of evidence and reason.

It is difficult to get young people to observe critically and to analyze accurately, and if the parents will, in the spirit of friendly criticism, encourage such critical discussions they can make a great contribution to the efficiency of the University in striving to train its students in the habits of intelligent thinking and critical analysis.

The second intellectual element in training one's individual resources for the problems of life is the development of a spirit of tolerance, of intellectual integrity, of objective open-mindedness. Merely to develop habits of critical analysis alone tends frequently to develop a certain cynical or flippant attitude toward life. With the habits of critical analysis and thinking must go a genuine love of truth. We must motivate youth with a fine sense of intellectual integrity. Otherwise, he may become clever, rather than profound. He may become smart, rather than wise. He may be brilliantly destructive without being helpfully constructive.

That is the reason we like to insist upon the spirit of research as a characteristic of our undergraduate instruction, as well as a necessary element in our graduate work. That is the reason we try to arrange our courses in order to stimulate the curiosity of the student. We like to vitalize his study by giving it the delights of intellectual discovery. When he takes a problem and finally works his way to a solution, has the thrill of intellectual accomplishment, and catches the enthusiasm of the scholar who seeks to discover new facts of life and insight into human understanding, then he is beginning to reverence truth. He is then ready to understand the nobility of intellectual integrity.