

OREGON NEWS ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

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

Pupils of the Prairie City school will have a brand new gymnasium for the 1931 winter basketball season. The structure is scheduled for completion by January 15. It is of frame and costs \$15,000.

Consolidation of the Bank of Commerce and the Bank of Wasco, at Wasco, was announced recently. They will take the name Bank of Commerce and occupy the building of the former bank of that name.

The Eastern Oregon Light & Power company at Union has completed a new \$7000 office building and dwelling and a \$5000 out-door sub-station to replace the old plant that was destroyed by lightning last July.

January 15 has been set by the Coquille Odd Fellows lodge for the formal dedication of its \$40,000 temple, completed there about a month ago. On this occasion grand lodge officers of Oregon will be present.

Dying in their sleep, three children burned to death near Albany when the residence of Carl Seefeld was destroyed by fire. The victims were Gordon Smith, 6; Oran Smith, 3, and Velma Seefeld, 8 years old.

With one local store burglarized a short time ago and 15 gallons of gasoline stolen from a garage recently, business men of Williams took action, pooling contributions to pay the salary of a night watchman.

The state tax levy for the year 1931, based on the valuations for the year 1930, will aggregate \$6,842,949.09, or approximately \$40,500 less than the tax levy for 1930, based on the 1929 valuations, according to an estimate prepared by the state tax commission.

Clamming beaches of the Astoria beaches are being endangered by oil believed to have been jettisoned off the coast, according to reports. It is stated that tide sands from Hammond to Gearhart are heavily coated with oil, which is held as a menace to the bivalves.

The East Side Mill & Lumber company of Portland, through its president, has given out information that it is making arrangements to begin in the spring the cutting of 50,000,000 feet of standing timber located on the west side of Squaw mountain, near Mt. Hood.

With interest equal to that in the recent successful prune conference, many cherry growers from both eastern and western Oregon were in Corvallis for the three-day conference and short course called by the horticultural department to consider critical conditions in that industry.

Burnova, 1-year-old baby girl, and Estel, 3-year-old boy, children of Mr. and Mrs. Fred McDaniel, were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the McDaniel home near Bend. Mrs. McDaniel had put the children to bed and was at the home of J. H. Buchholz, next door, when the McDaniel home was found to be enveloped in flames.

Oregon's irreducible school funds are available for use in the purchase of textbooks for Oregon schools, in the opinion of I. H. Van Winkle, attorney general, who has advised J. O. Bailey, state senator from Multnomah county. Senator Bailey is engaged in drafting a free textbook bill for introduction in the forthcoming legislative session.

In cases where certification does not apply in fact, it is illegal to use the word "certified" in connection with potato sales, according to an opinion handed down by the attorney general. The opinion was requested by E. R. Jackman, state potato certification board member, of Corvallis. Jackman objected to use of the phrase, "certified seed potato company," in the title of a Portland firm.

Twenty-seven Oregon counties will participate in the distribution of \$191,724.44 in federal forestry funds this year, according to word received by Governor Norblad from the United States department of agriculture. The amount represents 25 per cent of the gross receipts from rentals and timber sales from lands included in national forests in this state and will be prorated among the counties.

The first six miles of the new highway around the rim of Crater Lake will be constructed next year, according to E. C. Solinsky, superintendent of the park. The right-of-way is clear and bids will be advertised for this winter.

Approximately 10,000 acres was added to land already classified for reforestation at a hearing before representatives of the state forestry board. This brings the total acreage classified for reforestation in Clatsop county to 168,000.

The Wendling mill of the Booth-Kelly Lumber company, which has been idle for a number of weeks, has resumed operations. It will work three days a week. The Springfield mill of the company will be closed until the first of the year.

Bourne is the smallest town in Oregon, according to the 1930 census, which gives it a population of one person, D. L. McConnell, caretaker for the B and B mine. Bourne, a mining town near Baker, had a population at one time of about 2000.

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BEVERLY HILLS COP IS REAL AUTOCRAT

Movie Actors Same as Any
One Else to Him.

Hollywood, Calif.—That portion of movieland which resides in Beverly Hills has a father confessor who draws no lines of creed, race, or previous condition of matrimony.

He is Charles Blair, chief of police, whose career has included the occupations of jockey, street sweeper, town constable and motorcycle officer. Blair rules with an autocratic hand. Enforcement of the law is only a small part of his duties, for he judges family quarrels and he hunts runaway dogs.

Blair has said that he treats all the villagers alike and for proof he points to the time when John Gilbert, the screen lover, was given a jolt in jail for disturbing the peace.

Gilbert Arrested.

On that occasion Gilbert left his home where he was giving a party and went to the police station to demand that officers arrest all his guests. His insistence led to his own arrest. During the debate Gilbert bounced once against the office cuspidor when a patrolman resented his manner of speech.

Gilbert was placed in the "common drunk" cell and was there for 30 hours. The officer who knocked Gilbert down still is on the force.

Neighboring quarrels fall to Blair for settlement. Ordinarily they are hushed up, but once in a while one breaks out, such as that which featured House Peters, the actor.

Peters' neighbors complained that he had rigged up a wash boiler on which he hammered at outrageous hours. Peters claimed that he was retaliating because the neighbors placed their radio at a window and turned it on full blast at 4 a. m.

Blair held a conference. Peters gave up his wash boiler and the neighbors turned down their radio.

Jockey in Early Youth.

Blair was a jockey for Sanhedrin, the noted Canadian distiller, in his early youth. He came to Beverly Hills when his only neighbors were House Peters, Will Rogers, and Douglas Fairbanks.

He was given the position of night watchman, tax collector and street sweeper.

Now he has 25 police officers. His force is noted for its ability to prevent crime and its great zeal in recovering lost dogs.

So well organized is the department that it has had only one major crime in 18 years—the murder of E. L. Doherty, Jr., more than a year ago.

And Blair points with pride to the fact that he has never had to turn out more than three officers to retrieve one of Gloria Swanson's pomeranians, or one of Clara Bow's schnauzers.

Living Tarzan of Apes

Now Works as Farmhand

Johannesburg, Lucas, South Africa's living Tarzan of the Apes, who was brought up in babyhood by wild baboons, has learned to talk English and now works on a farm near Port Alfred.

He is tremendously powerful. He can use a 141-pound hammer in the blacksmith's shop and turn a heavy lathe all day long without showing the slightest sign of fatigue.

Lucas states that he has no ambition to return to the baboons, they were too fond of biting him on the slightest pretext.

Lucas, when a tiny baby, was sleeping on the edge of a mealie patch in the Koonap district of the Cape while his mother was hoeing when a troop of baboons stole him.

Nothing was heard of the infant for several years. One day a police patrol fired on some baboons on a kopje. The baboons fled, leaving one of their number, less agile, behind. On approaching, the police were amazed to find it was a native youth, naked and gibbering.

Spanish Cave Believed

World's Oldest House

Lawrence, Kan.—"The oldest house in the world is a cave near Castle, Spain," said Dr. F. W. Blackmar, professor of sociology at the University of Kansas, in an address recently on "How Old Is Man?" "Remains of 13 different races that lived in this cave as far back as 100,000 years ago have been found," he said. Doctor Blackmar said that while it is impossible to determine exactly where, how, and when man first appeared on the earth, most of the early history of man has been learned in the last 75 years than in all the centuries preceding, and all parts of the world are now being searched by anthropologists for traces of early man.

Los Angeles Revealed

as a One-Horse Town

Los Angeles, Calif.—In spite of its population of more than one million, Los Angeles still is a "one horse town."

There is but one lone, solitary horse and buggy available for the young swain that would a-wooing go in the style of his grandfather. In 1910 there were 70 livery stables in Los Angeles. In 1930 the competition of automobiles and airplanes has cut this down to four.

Of the four, only one has a horse and buggy for rent.

NOT BY A LONG SHOT

A time keeper of a negro extra gang on a southern railroad asked a white hand his name.

"George Washington, sir," replied the new comer.

"You're not the man who cut down the cherry tree, are you?" joked the timekeeper.

"No, suh. This is the first work I've done for ovah a year."

EX-RULERS AWAIT CALL FROM THRONES

Live in Exile in Various Parts
of World.

London.—Twelve deposed kings and royal pretenders are living in exile in various parts of the world today, and political observers here are wondering who will be the thirteenth.

There is considerable speculation, too, as to whether the number may not be cut to 11 before the end of the present year. Several of the royal exiles—particularly King George of Greece, Amanullah of Afghanistan, and the former khedive of Egypt—are known to be anxious to regain their thrones.

The first bid for a crown, however, will probably be made by a boy who has never known kingly power.

On November 20 the Archduke Otto of Hapsburg was eighteen and attained his majority, according to Hapsburg tradition.

Otto has been carefully tutored for the role of king by his mother, the ex-Empress Zita. One by one she has won over the different branches of the Hapsburg family.

An attempt to place Otto on the Hungarian throne would create a new crisis in southeast Europe.

A coup d'etat on behalf of King George of Greece also might have repercussions in the Balkans. King George recently expressed a belief that he will be called back. In this respect he is like the former Khedive Abbas Hilmi, who still hopes the Egyptian Nationalists will offer him the throne he lost in 1914.

None of the royal exiles exceeds in energy the unfortunate Amanullah who was driven from Afghanistan two years ago because of his modern ways. Secret Amanullah organizations are said to be active in Afghanistan in his behalf.

Bob, a Canine Tramp,

True Knight of Road

Cherryvale, Kan.—Bob is a dog and a tramp, one of the few survivors of the once numerous class of nonpaying railway travelers.

Around his neck he wears an inch-wide leather collar upon which a brass label identifies him as "Tramp, Southern Kansas Railway."

Bob is a frequent visitor here. He rides Santa Fe trains, but is partial to baggage cars. He has a wide acquaintance among railroad men. He takes his meals at eating houses along the line where such eating places are available. But in cities on his itinerary where there are no such dining rooms, he successfully applies his winning personality at cafes and meat markets.

Bob makes stops at Wellington, Independence, Chanute, Ottawa, and, in fact, all towns of consequence along the Southern Kansas division of the Santa Fe. He frequently goes on into Kansas City.

One of Bob's railroad friends brought him uptown and introduced him to one of the elite in Cherryvale's dog population. But the tramp dog seemed to be uneasy. A train whistled, and Bob dashed out of the door and caught a northbound Santa Fe train for Chanute.

Hundreds Pay Tribute

When Famous Dog Dies

Wooster, Ohio.—Queen, the great Dane, owned by Dr. L. L. Dearnment of Dalton, Ohio, is dead.

Queen was known throughout the state for her performances before inmates of orphanages, prisons, hospitals, and other institutions.

Hundreds of Queens admirers went to her funeral to pay tribute to the dog whose life had been devoted to charity.

Doctor Dearnment took Queen when she was a pup. She had been struck by an automobile and he took her to a veterinarian, pledging that if she recovered her life would be given to making others happy. That was eight years ago.

Queen's master established a bank account for her and built her an expensive kennel and playground. He resented the expression that she "did tricks."

African Coast Fever to

Be Studied by Savant

St. Louis.—Possibilities of controlling the dangerous African west coast fever will be studied by a British government scientist at Washington university here as the result of research by Dr. E. V. Cowdry of St. Louis in Nairobi, Kenya colony, West Africa.

Cowdry, professor of cytology at the university medical school, found that the disease, which cost from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000 annually in loss of cattle, is caused by a parasite of malarial type transmitted by ticks.

Cowdry traced out the life cycle of the parasite. Possibilities of breaking the cycle and thereby conquering the disease will be studied in experiments here.

Woman, 70, Divorces

Mate, Gone 46 Years

St. Louis.—Mrs. Margaret Duffy, seventy, whose husband deserted her 46 years ago, obtained a divorce here. She told Judge Roskopf she recently learned from a son that her missing spouse was in Minnesota.

Northern Islands

The following islands are among those farthest north: Axel-Helberg I., Alexander I., Hooker I., McClinton I., Siam I., Franz Josef I. and Leninland. These islands are either partially or entirely within the unexplored portion of the Arctic circle.

To remove ink stains pour milk and salt over the mark and rinse; or, rub with oxalic acid and rinse.

LONDON PROPER IS CITY WITHIN CITY

Tiny Patch Where the Pulse
Beats of World Are Felt.

Washington.—In what city is the capital of England?

"The natural response is London. The precise answer in Westminster," says a bulletin from the National Geographic society.

"If the word 'city' be omitted the answer, of course, is London, for the London of common knowledge, the London of some 7,500,000 inhabitants, is the county of London. It includes the city of Westminster, with its parliament buildings, and it also includes the original city of London, a tiny patch in the center of the great metropolitan district.

"The city of London proper came into the days' news recently through its time-honored lord mayor's show, which this year was enlivened by a band of real American Indians in full regalia.

"The city, with an area of only a square mile and a resident population of 13,000, is the smallest of the 29 divisions of Greater London.

Center of Activity.

"The city is by far the oldest and the most interesting part of London. While it does not contain the parliament building, nor Westminster Abbey, nor any of the royal palaces, it is the commercial and banking center, the newspaper center, and in St. Paul's cathedral and the Tower of London it has two of England's most famous institutions. It is still essentially the district in which the Romans found Londinium. Walls, long since torn down, define many of its streets, and gates, such as Aldgate, Bishopgate, Moorgate and Temple Bar, are preserved in street names.

"Visitors to London are aware of a difference when their wanderings lead them from one of the other boroughs or cities of London into 'The City.' The streets are narrower and more winding, and the atmosphere is surcharged with activity and bustle.

"In the very midst of 'The City' broods that portentous dwager, 'The Old Lady of Threadneedle street,' more formally the Bank of England.

"Directly across Threadneedle street from the bank is the Royal Exchange, a building as imposing as New York's Stock Exchange. But it is only a show place. The real stock exchange is almost hidden around the corner, between Threadneedle and Throgmorton streets.

"One may feel the pulse beats of the world in Fleet street, London's concentrated newspaper and press association center.

"The London bridge can't fall down." Nursery rhyme collapse is not the present state, arched structure. Nothing short of an earthquake could fell its sturdy granite spans. London bridge connects 'The City' with the borough of Southwark, and marks the farthest point that ocean vessels may ascend the Thames. More than 20,000 vehicles and 120,000 people on foot pour over it daily.

"The Guildhall, or hall of the corporation of the city of London, would be known as the city hall elsewhere. Here the chief business of 'The City' is carried on. It should be pointed out, however, that this is not the administrative center for metropolitan London. While the lord mayor and his retinue were riding to receive the crown's approval, the crown's husband, as a queen, man, unknown to Londoners themselves, was sitting in the county hall in Lambeth borough, passing on the major affairs of London without thought or permission of the lord mayor.

"This virtual unknown is the chairman of the London county council, the real ruling body for Greater London. The lord mayor's jurisdiction extends only over the square mile of the city of London. The chairman of the London county council is chosen from the 124 councilors elected by the taxpayers of all London, has control of housing, education, public health, transportation, streets, drainage, water supply, and numerous other vital matters throughout the entire metropolitan district."

Jew Refuses Gentle

Blood to Save His Life

London.—The question of whether a Jew, on the point of death, should refuse any infusion of gentle blood, if he knows that such an operation can save him, is arousing much discussion here. In the London hospitals lies a Jew, whose name the press does not mention, who refuses to allow steps to be taken that may save his life.

A member of the London blood transfusion service was asked recently to come to this hospital so that the transfusion might be made.

The patient, on learning that the donor was not a Jew, refused to submit to the transfusion, saying he would not allow gentle blood to flow in his veins.

Old Mill Still Turns

Out Daily Batch of Flour

Genesee, Wis.—An old stone mill erected by Benjamin A. Jenkins in 1848 has been grinding flour here for 82 years. When Jenkins milled flour in 1833 that won first prize in the Crystal Palace in New York, this community was called Jenkinsville after its founder. Later, Jenkins was influential in having the valley in New York state, where he originally lived.

Housewife Finds

Egg Within an Egg

Vincennes, Ind.—An egg with in an egg was found by Mrs. William Snyder, while preparing breakfast.

Mrs. Snyder said she cracked open what apparently was an ordinary egg and instead of the yolk a small egg about the size of a quail's egg, dropped into the skillet.

PUZZLE PULLER

Question: Why is hash such an enthusiastic dish?

Answer: Because the cook puts everything she has in it.

To polish mirrors and glass after washing, crumpled tissue or news paper makes an excellent polisher.

Life's little ironies—a ball and chain.

HOARD MILLIONS IN U. S. CURRENCY

Misers Have Tucked Away
More Than \$400,000,000.

Washington.—Millions in old size currency which was replaced more than a year ago by the new small size paper money will never be presented for redemption, treasury officials have estimated.

Various methods of determining the amount which will never come back place the aggregate gain to the government at from \$10,000,000 to as much as \$70,000,000. In addition to amounts destroyed and lost, the treasury believes at least \$60,000,000 has been hoarded.

Although new small sized currency began circulating 15 months ago, a total of \$800,200,000 in old size money is still outstanding. If only one per cent of this fails to return, the treasury will save \$8,002,000.

Joseph S. McCoy, treasury actuary, believes that hoarding of paper money equals at least 50 cents per capita for the 122,000,000 persons in the United States, or a total of \$61,000,000.

Aggregate hoarding of paper money, silver currency and gold is placed by McCoy at more than \$400,000,000. This money is hoarded by the estimated 8,000 misers in this country, in children's banks, by foreigners who do not trust our banks, by those in isolated communities without banks, and by many who wish to keep a certain amount of currency always on hand.

Catastrophes such as the Chicago and San Francisco fires destroy large amounts of currency. Thousands are lost annually in smaller fires or explosions.

The fastest turnover in currency is in the \$1 bills. The average life of one of the old \$1 bills was eight months, so it is probable most of those of the old series still out have either been destroyed or are hoarded. There are \$340,908 of unredeemed \$1 bills in national bank notes alone.

Texas Loses Big Suit

Over Free Oil Lands

Austin, Texas.—Texas cannot take back the land it gave to participants in the revolution that established it as a republic from Mexico, the State Supreme court has ruled in the state's biggest lawsuit.

When the Texans established independence by defeating General Santa Anna at San Jacinto, grants of land were given to many of the participants in the revolution.

With the development of the Harris county oil field, the land came to be valued by inches instead of miles. New surveys developed an apparent discrepancy between surveys of the early grants. The state claimed that occupants of grants had taken over 600 acres not properly in their grants.

The state sued for the 600 acres and asked also an accounting and judgment for oil already taken from the land. Some of the pleadings estimated this at \$50,000,000 worth.

The state got judgment for 247 acres and \$1,233,000. The judgment was reversed in an intermediate court. Now the Supreme court has refused to let it go any farther.

London's Population

Shows Slight Decrease

London.—A startling decline in population, the lowest birth rate on record and an increasing number of marriages, are revealed in the annual report of Dr. F. N. Kay-Menzies, medical officer for health and London county council school medical officer.

The population of London was 4,524,000 in 1921 and was given as 4,430,000, a drop of 94,000, in the middle of 1929. Marriages numbered approximately 42,301 in London in 1929, 19.1 per thousand of the population as compared with 18.9 in 1928.

There were 70,089 births in 1929 as compared with 72,352 in the preceding year. Authorities said the number of births were fewer by 887 than in 1918, when the influence of the World war was at its height.

Celebrities' Autographs

Auctioned Off Cheaply

Paris.—The first public auction sale of manuscripts and autographs organized in the government auction house, here, answered the old question of what is in a name. The sale established that if your name is Raymond Poincare an autograph letter with your signature has a market value of \$3. Kings are no higher, for a Louis Philippe signature is priced in the autograph market at 75 cents. Some of the other prices were: Queen Marie Theresa, \$2; Victor Hugo, \$25; Leon Gambetta, great French republican, \$5; Alexander Dumas, \$8; King Charles X of France, \$1, and Christian VIII of Denmark, \$4.

Open Diplomats' School

Is to Become Extinct

Utica, N. Y.—Man will follow the dinosaur in extinction because he is a "terminal twig" and cannot keep on developing, according to Dr. George B. Cutten, president of Colgate university.

Doctor Cutten, in a speech here, said that the species of man must pass out of existence in ages to come, in keeping with biological precedent. Then, too, man is overspecialized, Doctor Cutten asserted. One example of overspecialization lies in the fact that he walks upright. If he would avoid appendicitis he must revert to all fours.

Another fault of overspecialization is that, although he knows "alcohol is bad for him," he wants it to escape from life's realities.

Letter Brings \$23,000

New York.—A letter, written by Thomas Jefferson on July 1, 1776, in which he told of drafting the Declaration of Independence, was sold at auction recently for \$23,000, a price said to be a record for Jeffersoniana.

If your linen is scorched—apply peroxide.

Business Men say: "Advertising Pays"

Lessening Grief

Grief is so far from retrieving a loss that it makes it greater; but the way to lessen it is by comparison with others' losses.—William Wycherly.

PICTURE ON SHELL BRINGS BOY WEALTH

Chinese Youth Charging 10
Cents a Look.

Shanghai.—He was only a poor Chinese country boy, who managed to keep his rice and noodle bowl filled by catching crabs and selling them to the residents of Swatow, a South China seaport, at prices so low a New York restaurant could serve crab meat cocktails at a nickel each and make 100 per cent profit. That was less than six months ago.

Today this same boy has more money than he knows what to do with, and all because of a single crab.

His name is Wang Chit-ze, and he is a direct descendant of a long line of Kwangtungese farmers and fishermen, simple folk, who worked and believed in legends. It was a legend that helped make Wang rich.

Desired to Become a Fish.

One of the tales in which Wang's people took great stock concerned one of his great-great-grandmothers. The story goes that she was a beautiful woman, who believed in the transmigration of souls and cherished a desire to become a fish after her death. She was buried in the ocean several miles from shore.

Inspecting his basket of crabs one night sometime ago, Wang noticed one whose shell seemed to bear the outline of a human face. A close look revealed the face was that of a charming Chinese woman. Wang was convinced the old story about his ancestor was true.

He spent the next few days showing the find to his customers. News of the discovery spread, and soon the boy was spending all his time showing the crab to throngs of curious farmers and townspeople at 10 cents a peek.