

OREGON NEWS ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

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

Oregon, with a population of 952,631, assessed valuations of \$1,125,000,000 and a net debt of 2 1/2 per cent of its assessed valuation, spends \$12,000,000 a year for highway construction and maintenance, according to figures on file with State Treasurer Tom Kay.

Permanent organization of the Grande Ronde Co-operative Creamery association has been perfected at La Grande. A board of directors has been elected. E. H. DeLong of La Grande is president. An option has been taken to purchase the Union creamery.

Douglas county at the beginning of the year had \$643,000 unexpended funds, according to the report of Roy Agoe, county clerk. The major portion of the balance, \$433,469.91, is held in the bond redemption fund for the retirement of the county's road bonds as they become due.

Preparatory work on construction of the high school building was started at Medford with a crew of men at work clearing the site. Excavation will start in a few days. Only persons residing in the school district December 1, 1930, will be employed in the construction program.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Schrock of Marshfield celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary recently. They were married in Iowa about the close of the civil war, in which Mr. Schrock fought at Shiloh, Bull Run and Lookout mountain. They have been residents of Coos county for 27 years.

The last evidence of indebtedness on the Pine Grove grade public school, built at a cost of \$24,000, was burned recently at a public meeting of the taxpayers of the district. The school was financed by issuing warrants, which were purchased by the residents of the district, and no bond issue was ever floated.

Workmen of the S. S. Magoffin company, contractors digging the eastern half of tunnel No. 5 of the Owyhee irrigation system, have uncovered a buried forest. Trunks of trees nearly a foot in diameter have been taken from the workings. The wood is ebony black, but burns readily and ranchers near the works are hauling it away for fuel.

Ceremonies which will mark the virtual close of sale of oleomargarine in Yamhill county and McMinnville were held there recently, when more than 200 pounds of the substitute was burned on a bonfire in the presence of members of the chamber of commerce and other McMinnville civic organizations and of the farmers' unions and granges.

Word has been received from the American Jersey Cattle club offices in New York that Rinda's Rosalie's Tessie 725083, owned by John Koppin of Gaston, has broken the world's record for senior three-year-olds in the 365-day class. She earned this distinction by the remarkable production of 1042.81 pounds of butterfat from 15,392 pounds of 6.69 per cent milk.

Though cream prices have taken a sharp drop during the last year, the Lower Columbia Co-operative Dairy-men's association did a gross business of \$1,023,043.08 during 1930, according to an announcement made following the annual meeting of the stockholders at Astoria. The gross sales figure was but \$25,000 less than 1929, and the net profits decreased but \$3000.

April 30 and May 1 have been selected for the annual music festival sponsored by the Southern Oregon State Normal school, according to Miss Esther Church, supervisor and director of music at the school. Last year about 2500 people participated in the music festival and returns from questionnaires already sent out indicate that the attendance will be better this year.

Tax levies in all cities of Lane county except Coburg are higher this year than last, it was announced by B. F. Keeney, county assessor. The total levy for all purposes, including state, county and municipal tax, in the several cities follows: Coburg, \$6.6 mills; Cottage Grove, 7.5 mills; Creswell, 5.7 mills; Eugene, 5.5 mills; Florence, 8.4 mills; Junction City, 6.5 mills; Springfield, 7.1 mills.

The best-laid plans of rats, as well as mice, go haywire sometimes. For weeks loggers in a Blue Ridge camp near Marshfield were provoked and not a little embarrassed by the disappearance of buttons from trousers, shirts and coats. They sought in vain for a solution to the mystery, until one logger discovered a rat's nest in the toe of his heavy boot. In the nest were 192 buttons of various hues and sizes.

After a year's delay in drilling operations at Leeper Dome oil well, west of Sutherlin, the directors of the company have signed a contract to resume work and proceed to a depth of at least 3500 feet. The hole is now down 2800 feet.

Spring chinook salmon appeared a few days ago, when four were taken by Svensen gillnetters. Tillman Coffey caught two, weighing 55 pounds. The other two were slightly smaller, but of excellent quality. Indications point to a good spring season.

Reading of advertising is worth while.

SCANDAL OF GRETNA GREEN STIRS CLERGY

Abuse of Scottish Marriage
Law Grows Apace.

Glasgow, Scotland.—The generation-old controversy that has centered about marriages at Gretna Green is again engaging the attention of the Scottish ministers and authorities. It seems that there is little they can do about a situation that is now widely referred to as "the scandal of Gretna Green."

Figures show that there are more marriages performed at Gretna Green at the present time than in the old days of high romance.

Scottish Law of Gretna Green. According to Scottish law any couple may be married at Gretna with or without the consent of their parents and whether or not they are minors. One of the parties is required to have lived in Scotland for at least three weeks before the wedding, but inasmuch as a statement of residence signed by a witness is the only proof required, it is not difficult to circumvent that requirement. Then, unless the marriage is registered, it is not a marriage at all. It may be repudiated at any time and in point of fact, after the expiration of the three months registration period, might just as well not have taken place so far as the authorities are concerned.

Few bother about registrations. Time was when a marriage at Gretna was looked upon by the parties to it as a tie as binding as the knots tied there are slip knots. Out of 200 marriages performed in the early part of this year only 44 were registered.

Denounced by Clergy. Out of 275 marriages performed in 1928 only 18 were registered. The Scottish clergy have stigmatized the practice as a "commercialized traffic designed to make life easy for the bigamist and the man who wishes to decoy a girl into a spurious marriage." But Gretna's customs and sanctions remain unchanged.

Gretna Green has been a flourishing center for hasty nuptials since 1754, when an act was passed by parliament preventing clandestine marriages in England. Being just over the border from England, in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, Gretna's bureaus for marrying eloping English girls and boys began to do a heavier business immediately. The poor and the rich, high and low, bent their steps toward the little village across the Sark. According to Scotch law, any one might officiate at the ceremony so long as he swore that he had witnessed the mutual pledges of fidelity between the prospective bride and groom.

Romance still clings to Gretna and because of it many couples are attracted there annually. But the commercial aspects of its activities are serving to bring the village into bad repute, and the unhappiness that comes to hundreds of young English girls yearly because of the looseness of this state sponsored system is stirring up a controversy beside which the companionate marriage controversy seems parvenu and puny.

Cuban Army Officer
Perfects New Air Bomb
Havana.—A new type of bomb for airplanes, invented by Lieut. Florindo Fernandez Preito, explosive expert of the Cuban army, uses a novel explosive compound may up of chlorate of potash and sugar. The bomb is the result of more than two years of experimenting. It weighs 18 pounds, of which 3 are the explosive charge. Recent tests made by one of the army planes at an altitude of 1500 feet resulted in ripping the center of the ground target 4 feet in diameter and 1 foot deep.

Cranes in Denmark
Carry Own Songbirds
Copenhagen.—Cranes in Denmark are so musical that they carry their songbirds with them when they fly. The Berlingske Tidende reports that one of its sharp-eyed ornithologists turned his field glasses skyward the other day and saw a flock of eight road cranes carrying several wagtails on their backs as they flew. The wagtails soared off from time to time just to keep their wings limbered up, but always returned to their "private passenger planes" before they could get out of range.

Has Quake a Day
Innsbruck, Austria.—For some time a mysterious earthquake near Reutte has been shaking the ground three or four times a day.

Famous Lion Dead
London.—"Toto," famous lion at the zoo, who could be petted by visitors, is dead.

Loom 300 Years Old
Is Still in Service
Pomeroy, Ohio.—A loom, relic of pioneer days, said to be almost three hundred years old, is still being used by Mrs. Henry Seidenbach, sixty, of Pomeroy.

She has used it nearly all her life for weaving fine linens and still prefers it to the patented looms of modern make. The loom was originally from Rutland township, near here.

Mme. Celestine d'Arpignac horse-whipped her husband after he defeated her in a lawsuit at Bordeaux, France, and she was sent to jail.

From Minneapolis comes the story that Irving Myers of that city ate 20 "hot dogs" at one sitting, breaking his own previous record of 16.

Read and subscribe for the Observer.

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Abstract of Taxes Payable in 1931 on the Assessment Rolls for the year 1930 Sherman County, Oregon

This is to certify that I, Margaret W. Peetz, Assessor for Sherman County, Oregon, have extended the taxes on the assessments made by me and as equalized by the County Board of Equalization, also the assessments made and certified by the State Tax Commission; and do certify that the same amounts apportioned to be assessed upon the taxable property in Sherman County for the State, County, High School, Special Schools, Roads, Bridges, City and other purposes for which a tax has heretofore been legally levied by the County Court and the levying bodies of the various municipalities and tax districts are as follows:

Special School Tax				Special City Tax			
Dist.	Value	Levy	Tax	City	Value	Levy	Tax
1	\$ 272,259	none	\$ none	Wasco	\$348,665	23.7	\$8,263.36
2	1,789,335	7.7	13,777.88	Moro	262,884	23.4	7,465.91
3A	349,458	6.5	2,271.48	Grass Valley	163,585	17.4	2,846.38
4	190,471	none	none	Total City Tax			18,575.65
5	738,778	6	443.27	Total levy in Wasco			43.5 mills
7	1,471,686	8.4	12,362.16	Total levy in Moro			48.3 mills
9	809,918	9.1	7,370.25	Total levy in Grass Valley			37.9 mills
10	275,580	none	none				
11	181,624	2.4	438.30				
13	431,257	1.4	603.76				
15	497,295	1.0	497.30				
16	721,903	3	216.57				
17	1,183,042	8.5	10,055.86				
19	349,834	2.6	909.57				
20	531,342	2.9	1,540.89				
21	272,620	3.1	845.12				
22	293,904	2.6	764.16				
23	791,597	9.1	7,203.53				
24	411,260	5	205.63				
25	237,950	2.1	500.58				
26	508,379	8	406.70				
29	278,203	2.1	584.23				
30	612,476	1.1	673.72				
32	370,285	3.0	1,110.86				
33	134,094	3.8	509.56				
33A	231,000	4.3	997.13				
33B	60,210	1.8	90.38				
35	53,010	9.3	492.99				
Total	\$13,950,660		\$64,870.99				

High School Tuition Fund is 1.9 mills and applies to all school districts except Nos. 3, 3A, 7, 9, 17, and 23; valuation \$7,555,624; produces \$14,355.69.

General Fund	
Department	Levy
State Tax	4.3808
Market Road	1.0035
Bridges	.6093
Sinking Fund for Road Bonds	1.2008
County and Children's Industrial Fair	.8451
Per-Capita School Tax	2.5710
Elections, Circuit Court and Justice Court	1.5000
DeMoss Memorial Park	3.6750
Care of Poor, County Physician and Burial Expenses	805.00
Pensions, Relief, Charity and Library	16,530.05
Balance for running expenses of county	

Recapitulation

General Fund	\$146,481.93
Special School Tax	64,870.99
High School Tuition Fund	14,355.69
General Road Fund	12,555.59
Special City Tax	18,575.65
Overplus fractional extensions	4.68
Grand Total Tax	256,844.53
Amount of advance tax collected by Assessor	314.05
Less advance tax to be refunded	45.31
Amount to be collected by the Sheriff	256,575.79

Dated at Moro, Oregon, this 30th day of January, 1931.

MARGARET W. PEETZ, County Assessor.

while digging in the said pits of Du-

label, in the Pas-de-Calais department. The tusks measured seven feet each. The molar teeth were larger than paving blocks.

The workmen, afraid of spoiling the find, informed the professors of the College of Science of Lille, who are now directing the work. Up to the present time the scientists only have been able to uncover the head and tusks, as the work must progress slowly for fear of breaking the bones into small pieces.

The first mammoth was found near here in 1907.

Washington, D. C., has a clever girl aviator. Washington women can do everything that anybody else does—except vote.

In several lands it has been decided that a dictator, once regarded with apprehension, is more to be welcomed than feared.

The first man to make a nonstop flight round the world probably will be killed by the crowd that greets him when he lands.

A Pasadena centenarian says anybody can live to be one hundred if he does not worry. But he doesn't tell us how not to worry.

Enthusiasm for a California girl who won a dish-washing contest is reserved until we learn whether she had any competition.

Some Italians who hailed a camel across the Mediterranean in an airplane might be elected to the publicity section of Mussolini's congress.

A Glasgow architect has abandoned his profession to become a Scotch comedian on the variety stage. He should be able to draw good houses.

A California free, by continuous grafting, is reputed to bear 125 different varieties of apples. This is but a puny imitation of the political plum.

Some one has remarked that raising bees will help the farmer. He might try. He is accustomed to being stung by most everything he raises.

Another thing about those short sleeves that the girls are wearing is that they show the world how extensively vaccination has been practiced.

Production has largely solved its waste problem and American factories generally are held to be the most efficient in the world. But in the distribution and department experts say they have found appalling examples of duplication and inefficiency.

Cemetery of Mammoths
Yields Another Find

Lille, France.—The cemetery of prehistoric mammoths, after 23 years of unexciting tranquility, has been again disturbed by the discovery of another large mammoth.

Yorkers recently uncovered fossilized bones of a prehistoric animal much larger than the largest elephant

La Port City, Iowa.—Four-year-old Clarence Riggle probably saved the life of his two-year-old sister, La Vonna, here. Burning paper fell on La Vonna's head.

Clarence wrapped his arms around her head and extinguished the fire with his hands. La Vonna's hair was burned off. Clarence received badly burned hands.

"What is the country coming to?" is a question frequently asked by alarmists. Well, just now it is coming to the point where it must get out its income tax returns.

Vincent Gatti of Chicago was locked in a refrigerator for 9 hours and kept from freezing by wrapping himself in sacking found on the floor.

Angered when her husband ridiculed her for being fat, Mrs. Winifred Halligan of New York slashed his neck with a razor, but not fatally.

It may not be possible to round up the boys when you want the wood chopped, but if you ring the dinner bell they will show up from some where.

Business Men say: "Advertising Pays"

AVERAGE COST OF RENO DIVORCE, \$350

Sharp Bargaining May Get It
for Less.

Reno, Nev.—The average cost of a Reno divorce is about \$350, although it is possible, with some sharp bargaining, to obtain a decree for less. The minimum fee for an attorney in an uncontested action is fixed by the Nevada Bar association at \$250, but the actual fee ranges from \$50 up. The fees probably average \$250 for the plaintiff, to which is added about \$25 for an attorney for the defendant. If there is trouble with the defendant and he refuses to sign a power of attorney or decides to contest the suit, the cost is mounted.

Probably the average New Yorker of moderate means spends about \$1000 for a Reno divorce, including railroad fare, living expenses for three months and attorney's fees. However, it is possible for a person to travel from New York to Reno and return with a decree in hand at a cost of as low as \$300.

No attorney will advise a person from New York to come to Reno without a "power of attorney" from the prospective defendant in the case if it is at all possible to procure one as such defendants, granted by default when the defendant is not represented in court here, are unrecognized in New York state.

The cost of having an attorney in court to represent the defendant, making the divorce decree legal anywhere, ranges from \$100 to \$200.

It is necessary to remain in Reno for three months before the divorce action can be filed, but the divorce will be granted immediately if the applicant has that most valuable power of attorney.

Otherwise the defendant must be served personally with a copy of the complaint, or by application, and then 40 days must elapse before the divorce is granted. One does not, however, have to remain in Reno or Nevada during that 40 day wait, but must be here for the hearing.

Find Auto Horns Are
Many Times Too Loud

Montreal.—Life is too loud these days, and this unnecessary clamor is not conducive to good health or good hearing. Prof. H. E. Reilly of the physics department of McGill University told the Kiwanis club recently.

Enemies of noise have collected some interesting data in a recent survey and have come to the following conclusions, he said:

1. That a policeman blows his whistle 10,000,000 times louder than necessary.

2. That the blast of a steamboat siren is 100,000,000 times louder than necessary.

3. That an automobile horn is sounded 50,000,000 times louder than is necessary, and on a clear day can be heard ten miles away.

4. That dogs bark too loudly.

5. That boys shout too loudly.

6. That the milkman, the grocery man, the baker, and the butcher's boy all ring the doorbell too long.

Oklahoma Indian Voter
Gets His Zoology Mixed

Apache, Okla.—A Creek county Indian, whose name election officials refused to disclose, depends on zoology for his political preferences.

A Republican canvasser at the poll told the Indian that he would see a rooster and an eagle on the ballot.

"Put a cross in the circle under the eagle," the Republican friend advised.

"When the Indian left the booth his friend accosted him.

"Did you vote under the eagle?"

"No see eagle," the Indian answered. "Saw buzzard and chicken. No like buzzard. I mark under chicken."

Aged Man Wants His Pet
Canine Buried With Him

Detroit.—Robert O. Oesterreich, who is eighty and who doesn't expect to live much longer, fears his pet and only companion, Jeanie, an aged Pomeranian, will not be cared for after his death, so he has asked the Humane society to kill the dog mercifully and bury it with him.

If Oesterreich could make provision for the dog's welfare after his death it might be different, but he now receives \$3 a week from the welfare board for his own sustenance. He has nothing more.

Royal Ring Lost in 1869
Found by German Farmer

Berlin.—A Buedingen farmer, tilling his soil recently, found an old ring inscribed "Napoleon III—Empereur 1861." The treasure was taken to the burgomaster and investigation revealed that the ring had belonged to Louis III, grand duke of Hesse, who received it as a present from Napoleon in 1861. He lost it when out hunting in 1869.

Fur Spats for Men Is
Fashion in Germany

Berlin.—Berlin is setting a fast pace for European fashion lately, and the latest fad to appear on the streets here is a fur-trimmed spat. Fur of a color to match the hue of the coats themselves boldly daunts itself to the public from underneath the trouser cuffs of well-dressed gentlemen. The style is widespread in Germany. It is said.

Girl's Life Is Saved
By Brother, Aged 4

La Port City, Iowa.—Four-year-old Clarence Riggle probably saved the life of his two-year-old sister, La Vonna, here. Burning paper fell on La Vonna's head.

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SOUTHERN PORTS SEEK OCEAN TRADE

Four Cities Spending Big Sums
for Facilities.

New Orleans. The economic battle of ports for commercial supremacy reverberates with the clang of riveting hammers, the snort of burrowing dredges and the thud of pile drivers along the Gulf of Mexico.

While efforts are being made to link all the most important ports of the gulf by means of intracoastal canals, New Orleans, Houston, Mobile, and Corpus Christi have reached out for added commerce through port improvement and enlargement projects.

Aided by the release of a sum estimated at \$1,000,000 a year for refueling and enlarging port facilities, the port of New Orleans already has launched dock construction which will cost \$2,500,000. It contemplates the expenditure of \$1,000,000 a year for a ten-year period to add to its state-owned port facilities.

Houston has swung into the competition. Congress has authorized the expenditure of \$504,000 for enlarging the Houston ship channel, and