

**The Other Side**  
By Cato the Censor

Winning the west was no vacation. It required courage, perseverance and endurance. There were obstacles to overcome which taxed the resourcefulness of the settler to the utmost. These handicaps were not traceable to the Indian. Among the most popular in early days were horse-stealing, robbery and the passing of bogus gold dust—forms of diversion which the hardy pioneers brought along with them.

While honest men toiled and sweated in placer miners of Oregon, Idaho and Montana, another crew was busy in Frisco, in the "manufacture" of gold. This was done by cutting bars of leads into small particles which resembled coarse gold dust in size. These particles were then galvanized with gold by a special process. The deception was so perfect, that nitric acid as generally applied, would not disclose the fraud. The Frisco firm operated as a syndicate and established agents in or near localities where genuine gold dust was being produced.

These agents had a clever method by which the bogus dust was exchanged for the genuine article. An agent would ride up to a roadhouse—the bank in those days—and ask to make a deposit of dust. The proprietor would accept the bogus dust, dump it in a huge jar, where it became mixed with the pure gold dust, and give the depositor a receipt. During the ensuing process of paying out and receiving, the bogus dust would gradually disappear. Several days later the agent would return and withdrew his deposit in genuine gold.

This activity led to the organization of a group of men—later called vigilantes—dedicated to the apprehension and punishment of robbers, horse-thieves and bogus dust operators. The expediency and dispatch with which Old Timers moved is interesting. A meeting would be called; there would be little debate and no oratory. A seven man jury would convene with power to gather evidence, conduct trials and render decisions—from which there were no appeals! Three forms of punishment were visited upon offenders: First, Banishment, in which 24 hours were allowed for preparation and departure. Second, Horse-whipping, to be publically administered.

Third, Capitol Punishment. The last penalty was usually death by hanging, depending on the circumstances. If the culprit surrendered, he was hung, if he resisted he was shot.

The jury had no particular time to meet but convened whenever occasion required. Here's a sample case:

A local "agent" was under consideration. Technical rules of evidence were not allowed to interfere with ascertaining the facts. If the facts were clear and incontrovertible the formality of a trial was not required. Such was the case with Agent Conklin. The penalty decided on in his case was banishment. Accordingly the foreman of the jury called on Conklin and advised him to leave the country within 24 hours. When Conklin pretended to ponder and consider the problem, the foreman said: "I know you—and what you have been doing. I am no immigrant and mean business. Either you go elsewhere, or go to your own funeral before another setting sun."

Conklin instantly arranged his affairs, took his departure and was never again seen in the locality.

**Reports Made on Study of City Budget 1953-54**  
By Arden Pinkham

At City Hall, Central Point, Oregon, May 18, 1953 Budget Committee met with all members present, Chairman J. E. Vincent presiding. This meeting was devoted mainly to work on the sewer and water funds and the committee managed to balance both of these funds, without providing for any increase in tax levies. With the exception of \$2,000.00 for payment on Bonded debt in the Sewer Fund, both of these funds are self sustaining.

Provisions were made in the water fund for construction of water mains to serve Oak Knoll sub-division. (New sub-division on East side of town, between Freeman Road and South 7th Street.)

The main problem in budgeting the Sewer Fund and the Water Fund is that they make payments on their bonded debts in November and December, respectively, and that the Sewer Fund receives approximately \$3,500.00 less than it spends during the first 4 months of each fiscal year and the Water Fund receives approximately \$3,000.00 less than it spends during the first 5 months of each fiscal year.

Present salary rates were given to budget committee members and the meeting adjourned until Monday, May 25th at 7:30 P.M.

Each member is to study the salary problem and present his recommendations at next meeting.

The General Fund and Street Fund both have less money available than they had for the present fiscal year; but the committee expects to complete the budget at next meeting, without holding an election to have the people vote extra levies, above what is now authorized.

Councilmen present were John Wisely, Robert Padgett, V. E. Noel, E. R. Yocum, Truman Brenner, Roy Kelly and Mayor Don Burelson. The budget committee attended consisted of J. E. Vincent, chairman, Leo Ghelardi, secretary, William Barber, E. L. Matthews, V. H. Pendleton and E. J. Taylor.

**Legion Auxiliary Notes**

Myers-Holland Unit, American Legion Auxiliary met Thursday evening, May 14. Discussion was held on installation of officers at Ashland, June 6. Plans were made for Poppy Days, May 22 & 23 and Memorial Day Services. Hospital chairman asked ladies to bake cookies for the ward visit at Camp White Monday.

The meeting on Thursday, May 28 will be preceded by a pot-luck supper at 6:30 P.M. All members of the Post and Auxiliary are urged to attend. Bring a covered dish. Extra cakes and pies are being donated for cake-walks during the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Duncan have moved to Banks, Oregon to live with their son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Duncan. Their failing health made it impossible for them to live alone. The son, Wesley and daughter, Eva Anderson came and moved them.

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**Joe Teepen Re-tread, Wins Unique Prize**

Joe Teepen. The guy with ideas—unique kind. Furthermore a "re-tread," by this we mean a veteran of both Messes One and Two. In his booth on the upper deck of the Hobby Ship Joe can turn out gadgets from wood, old odds and ends of most anything; for example table lights decorated with sea shells. And now it is a big squirrel cage and traps for Fred Decker, the hermit of Hyatt Lake, who checks out each June 1 only to come back when the "frost is on the pumpkin" and the edges of the lake itself are fringed with frost.

Teepen is kind of an institution around The Home. Gets over the ground with the aid of a cane. Tell the lad what you want and he can fashion it. He even filled an order for a fur lined bath tub once.

The purpose of writing these lines were to congratulate Joe on having won the grand prize at the recent Hobby Fair for the most Unique Display. Your reporter was in Portland at the time the fair was unfolded, a guest of Dr. Spendlove at the VA hospital, Marquam Hill. Therefore we are late in throwing this bouquet at Teepen, the "re-tread" with so many ideas and the ability to carry them out.

Again congratulations, old friend—Joe.

**WW I Barracks 14 Held Meeting May 12**

Tuesday, May 12, 1953, The World War One Barracks 14 of Camp White, had a meeting with Rogue River No. 3 Aux. of Camp White. They had Bingo and paid 15c for a while and then the last three was for fifty cents. I was lucky on one fifteen and they called twenty three and I won fifty cents.

They served braized doughnuts and coffee.

Our barrack No. 14 is doing fine. I had one buddy that joined last Tuesday and he paid \$4.00 for membership, fifty cents for pin, three seventh-five for cap.

We are not sure as yet what we will do the thirtieth of this month. H. D. Schoonmaker, Co. I Wd. 705 N. Bed 590

**Locals**

The Elmer Olsons, her mother and brother drove to Crater Lake Sunday. Mrs. Olson's brother, who is visiting them, plans to return to Sweden in June. The Olsons recently made quite a lengthy trip to the Eastern and Southern States.

Edwin Gebhard called home from Joliet, Illinois Saturday evening. He was going on a 20-day vacation and would visit friends in Missouri and Arkansas, and also with relatives in Kansas and Nebraska.

Mrs. R. W. Anders entertained with a birthday dinner honoring Mrs. E. E. Scott on May 18th. Several old time friends were invited, and a most delicious dinner was served, the dessert being strawberry sundaes and the beautiful birthday cake. Mrs. Scott was the recipient of many lovely gifts and cards.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Smith are moving from 147 Laurel St. to stay with friends for a short time before leaving for their new home in Louisiana where Mrs. Smith's parents, Mr. and Mrs. McGee live. The McGees were recent visitors here and took the little granddaughter, Debbie back with them.

"the people make it clear that they want governmental costs cut

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**Ramblin' 'Round--**  
(Continued from Page 1)

other feathered friends haven't beat us to the punch.

Dick Smith has crossed the last chalk mark. A great athlete of Oregon and an All-American later at Columbia University, New York has gone to play ball in another conference.

Richard Shore Smith, age 74. Lawyer, banker, football coach and friend of man. Past his three score and ten we hope that Dick did not

suffer too much before he left behind the thousands of friends that he made while here on earth.

This writer and John Beckett were kids on the Webfoot varsity in our freshman year, September 1917. We worked for Dick Smith and his law firm. They owned their own building and we were custodians of the mops, dust cloths and brooms.

A charter member of the Sigma Nu fraternity Richard Shore Smith still looked rugged when the late Don Newbury and myself attended a little more than two year, its 50th anniversary as a national fraternity on the Oregon campus.

Dick would want this said: "Sunset and evening star—they look alike to me. May there be no moaning at the bar When I put out to sea."

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