



## Statehouse Gossip

By ERNEST L. GRAY

Oregon, should the people on January 31 next approve the changes in the state primary law will have both a later election and will have a convention system. The election would come too late to name delegates to the party nominating session, therefore they will be named by precinct committeemen in convention.

The act, passed by the regular 1935 legislature and referred to the people, will call for the date of the primary to be changed from the present May date to the first Friday after the first Monday in September, about the same time that the state of Washington would hold its election.

The bill will be voted upon in the special election called for January 31, at which time a vote will be taken on the so-called "sales tax," really a gross income tax rather than a sales tax, the provisions placing the matter of pay for the legislators into the hands of the members themselves, and the compulsory student fee repeal.

The change in the date was an administration measure, Governor Martin advocating it during his campaign for governor. It received a hearty vote in both the house and the senate when it was passed last March. There appears very little opposition to the bill and its final approval was predicted.

The direct primary law, as originally approved by the people, recognized the desirability of having a short interval between the primary and general elections by setting the primary in May and the general election in June. Election economy later moved the general election date back to November, coincident with the date of the national election. Political jerry-mandering left the primary election in May.

A brief campaign period is not new to other states. States which have late primaries include Washington, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, Louisiana, Vermont, Michigan, New Hampshire, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, New York and Georgia. These 12 states hold their primaries in September.

Ten others, including Kansas, Missouri, California, and Wyoming, nominate their candidates in August. Oklahoma, Montana, and Texas cast their primary vote in July. Only nine states have May primaries. Proponents argue that a better class of candidates for public office will result from the shorter campaign periods.

Under the provision of the act, precinct committeemen throughout the state will have a direct part in the election of district delegates to the national conventions of their prospective parties. The county central committee through their election of state committeemen, will be given a voice in the election of delegates at large.

The state central committee of each party will have the direct responsibility of the election of national committeemen and national committeewomen. The direct responsibility in this case will be at the door of the state central committee. The convention undoubtedly would be called sometime in May.

In the past the presidential electors were on the same ballot as candidates for nomination in the May primaries. This could not be done if the date is changed to September, since the national nominating conventions are held in June or July. It brings the naming of the delegates back to the old party convention system, a move that has frequently been urged for the naming of all political candidates prior to the general election.

A new candidate has been prominently mentioned for the office of state treasurer, the position now held by Rufus C. Holman. Earl H. Hill, of Cushman, republican representative in the house from Lane county may seek the post. Should he do so, it was understood, he will be the only one to run against Holman.

In the event Hill announces his candidacy, P. J. Stadelman of The Dalles would eliminate himself as a candidate. Stadelman, former secretary of state, was still undecided about his plans, but he would like to run for some political position. It was reported he was more inclined to run for state senator from his district.

Stadelman has had his eyes upon the senate toga, and perhaps would rather do that than spend his entire time away from his business in The Dalles. He would not run against Hill in any event, and has announced he would not run against Walter Pierce in the second district for

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## County Agent Explains Idea of Conference

"Just what is this county agricultural economic conference?" This is a question that is frequently heard around the county since the announcements were made that one would be held. The 77 farmers of Washington county who have been at work for more than a month digging into the facts pertaining to the status of our various farm enterprises here could very well answer this question, according to W. F. Cyrus, county agent.

Such a conference idea is not something that has developed out of the AAA or "new deal" organizations but an idea more than 10 years old. In 1925 farmers of this county participated in just such a conference and wrote up their ideas in a form which has been useful in a good many places right up to date.

"There is nothing mysterious about this farm conference, said county agent Cyrus, it is just a businesslike attempt on the part of the farmers in the county to assemble all facts possible about the agriculture of the county and from these facts to decide as near as possible what is the most profitable program to follow in the future."

The farmers in this county work on the program are divided into committees dealing with dairying, poultry, tree, fruits, small fruits, vegetable crops, seed crops, hay and grain crops and general livestock. In addition to these specific farm enterprises another committee is delving into the questions of farm credit, land utilization, farm organization and farm outlook. These committees are assembling the facts and from these facts will develop their ideas pertaining to the phase of farming their committee deals with.

On February 4 and 5 a general conference will be held. The first day of this conference will be devoted to group meetings with all the producers who may be interested invited to meet with the committee or committees working out a program for farm enterprises they are most interested in.

Advantages of developing a report or program of this kind are evident. New people have come into the county and if predictions of many come true still more people are to come to this part of the country. Many of these folks are not familiar with our farming situation here and are going to be in need of accurate information pertaining to farm enterprises and what they may expect from these. Also as these people come it is going to mean shifts and changes in our existing farming system and these need to be foreseen.

These conferences are intended to set out the facts and recommendations which together make up a general sort of program which if used should prevent some losses and which should tend to unite all those agencies working towards the agricultural development of the county. The problem is not so much what is taking place nationally as it is in what this county can grow best and grow economically and the farm organization that works into the production of these various crops most satisfactorily. In other cases it is a question of laying plans on a community and county basis for expanding some products for which there appears to be a good future market.

In reviewing the report of the economic conference completed in this county in January in 1925 some of the committeemen have been somewhat surprised to find how accurate and applicable are some of the conclusions made at that time. With changing conditions it is important to add to these reports and findings new facts brought out by new developments.

## Farewell

In the passing of Mary Jane O'Meara, affectionately known as Grandma O'Meara, Eastern Washington county loses a lovable character.

She spent the sunny side of life for many years at the old family home on the Baseline road North West of Beaverton.

Always happy in doing some kindness for the family at home and her many friends.

We shall often pause in sadness when we think of the cheerful disposition of our good friend, who has left us. Grandma O'Meara farewell.

## DRAINAGE DIST. NO. 2

Much burning has been done the past week, still there is a lot of small boards, pieces of plank, and old boxes remaining on the Beaverdam which will drift into the creek with high water. You are requested to ask your men or tenants to burn up everything loose. Next week is Clean Up Week on the Beaverdam, Do your part.

After a heavy rain take a look at the creek, observe how rapidly the water flows down stream.

The crew completed the South fork Beaverton creek Friday to the end which is located in Denney's field 40 rods North of Allen avenue SE of town and are now working on the East fork through the property of Hattie Rossi.

## Sales Tax will Double State Property Tax Bill

Based on what has been seen of the results of the Idaho's sales tax where last month's sales tax returns amounted to \$220,000—and they have approximately 450,000 people in that state—we Oregonians will pounce upon between four and five hundred thousand dollars per month, or somewhere between four and six millions per year.

The entire property tax levy for state purposes for 1936, as promulgated by the State Tax Commission is only \$2,613,941.58. So our state bill is more than doubled.

If all this were needed it might be defended with some degree of consistency, but the facts are that the plea that it is for relief is a subterfuge, for, according to the Federal Government figures—and they have been doing some specializing in relief work, as perhaps you know—there are only 39,133 Oregonians 70 years of age, or over, of whom only 6,525 received aid in 1935. There are only 67,332 persons in Oregon 65 years of age or over, according to the same authority. Since only 16.6 of those over 70 received aid, it is reasonable to assume that not more than 14 per cent of those over 65 would bring the total number to be relieved by the Sales Tax measure to 9425.

IF THESE WERE GIVEN THE PRESENT RATE OF RELIEF THE TOTAL COST FOR A YEAR WOULD BE \$739,000, OR LESS THAN THE RETURNS FROM THE SALES TAX FOR TWO MONTHS. WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO THE PROCEEDS OF THE OTHER TEN MONTHS?

As has been pointed out before, this is the third of the subterfuges used to foist the Sales Tax on Oregon. The first was to save property from confiscation. It did not work, and property was not confiscated. Next it was to save the schools. That failed, and the schools did not close. Now it is to pay old age pensions. The same result can be expected, for as revealed above, the 36 counties can between them secure the \$739,000, which was all required last year, and should not be increased in 1936.

GEO. K. AIKEN,  
The Argus, Ontario, Oregon

## Rebekah Needle Club Elect New Officers

Rebekah Needlework and Social club met Friday to complete plans for a Christmas tree and party at the Oddfellows hall in Beaverton Tuesday, December 17, also to elect officers for the coming year.

Officers elected were: Mrs. Nettie McElroy, president; Mrs. J. P. Osfield, vice-president; Mrs. Elizabeth Meyers, secretary and Mrs. Florence Drorbaugh treasurer.

## Addition to Cheese Factory

R. Schuepbach & Sons are building a new addition 16x40 to their cheese factory on Spencer avenue, one half mile South west of Beaverton. Schuepbach's celebrated Swiss cheese is in big demand—hence more floor space needed.

## MARY JANE O'MEARA

Mrs. Mary Jane O'Meara passed away at her home at Elmonica Dec. 7, after a long illness. Her funeral was held Tuesday morning from St. Cecilia church with interment at Cedar Mill cemetery.

Deceased was born 81 years ago in Boston, Mass. While a small child her parents moved to California settling near Marysville in the heart of the gold mining district. In 1870 she was married to John O'Meara and resided in California until May 1885, when the family moved to Oregon, locating near Beaverton, which has been the family home ever since.

Mrs. O'Meara was the mother of twelve children, of whom six sons and two daughters survive her, as well as nine grandchildren and one great grand child.

St. Cecilia Parish will hold a "I got it" party in their school hall Thursday eve, Dec. 19th. Turkeys for prizes.

## Honorable Discharge Long Delayed



Harold J. Vanness, an officer of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, is shown as he handed George H. Meyer, eighty-six, his honorable discharge papers declaring him eligible for pension, after Meyer waited years for the official release Meyer joined the Union army at the age of fifteen, saw considerable action and was wounded in the Battle of Lookout Mountain. He celebrated his obtaining his discharge by staging a big party at his home in Omaha, Neb.

## William Earl Evans Native of Beaverton Passes Away Monday

Beaverton, Oregon, Dec. 13—William Earl Evans died at his home at Beaverton after a short illness, Monday, Dec. 9th.

He was born at Beaverton, March 3, 1883, where he has resided continuously. He attended schools here and Behnke Walker Business college in Portland. For the past fourteen years he had been employed at Otto Erickson & Co., Beaverton.

He was past master of Beaverton lodge No. 100 A. F. & A. M.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Mary Evans; three sisters, Mrs. Inez Whitworth, Mrs. Mabel Hughes, and Lillian H. Evans; two nieces, Eva and Elsie Whitworth, all of Beaverton, and one nephew, James Whitworth of Hillsboro.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at 2 o'clock under the auspices of the Masonic Lodge at the Masonic Hall, Rev. Bruce Groseclose delivering the services. W. E. Pegg was in charge of arrangements. Concluding services by Masonic lodge were at Riverview Abbey.

## GOOD BYE EARL

There is sadness in the hearts of old schoolmates and friends in Beaverton this week—Earl Evans crossed into that beautiful land on far-away strand where streets are paved with pure gold and the sun never goes down!

Charter members of the old Beaverton band, who helped to entertain with band concerts for the pleasure of the crowd, gathered on summer evenings in days gone by.

He was of sincere and charming personality. In his going Earl Evans left memories that will not perish—left examples that will not perish—and left sadness in the hearts of his friends.

Earl Evans, old pal, Good Bye!

## FRACTURES RIB IN FALL

Last Saturday John I. Eggman, who lives one mile South of Beaverton, on South Lombard street, fell on the back steps at his home and fractured a rib on his left side. At the present writing he is feeling improved. He says the first thing he intends to do is build some new steps, as this is the second time he has fallen over the old ones.

## Local Postoffice Gives Mailing Suggestions

The Beaverton postoffice offers the following suggestions and instructions for Christmas mailing.

Shop early and mail early—for early delivery.

There will be no mail delivery Christmas day, Wednesday, Dec. 25. Mail early for delivery before Christmas Day.

Register or insure valuable mail. Use air mail for speed. First in arrival—first delivered—first opened—first answered.

The Beaverton postoffice will remain open Saturday afternoon, Dec. 14 and Dec. 21 for the convenience of local patrons.

## SPECIAL NOTICE

Patrons of the R. F. D. are requested to have all first class mail stamped before depositing it in the box for the carrier.

The carrier always carries a supply of stamped envelopes, stamps, etc., for the accommodation of his patrons.

## Wheat Control

At the state grain board meeting at Corvallis, Tuesday, set Saturday, December 21, as the closing date for receiving all applications for wheat control contracts. This is about three weeks later than the blanket national closing date, but because of conditions peculiar to Oregon this state was allowed more time.

About half of the counties concerned have completed their applications and the others are expected to comply before the deadline, it was explained.

## Ring the School Bell

Many people in Beaverton and vicinity during the past year have asked the question Why do we not hear the Beaverton school bell ringing as in former years?

When the car shops were here, people for miles around set their watch by the big chime whistle. It would please the people of district 48 if the old school bell will peal out the time of day again, men in the field will know when it is noon.

Two old American institutions, the old bell and the little red school house. It has a cheerful sound, bringing back many pleasant memories of the days when you and I were young hurrying along the road to school.

Every day Cooper Mt. rings their school bell, only one teacher up there. We are listening for the Beaverton school bell!

## Boundary Board to Meet

A meeting of the Washington county boundary board is to be held Monday, December 23, at the court house at Hillsboro, to consider a petition for change of an area of approximately seven acres from Cooper mountain to Aloha-Huber district. The change would affect one family, it was said at the office of O. B. Kraus, school superintendent.

## Three Singers Wanted

We have bass singers for Washington County Townsend quartet, Wanted—First tenor, second tenor and baritone voices—must be heavy for radio work. Those who are interested drop a line to Earl E. Fisher, Beaverton, Oregon.

## Aloha to Join Local Drainage District

The proposed Aloha-Huber drainage district held a meeting at Oregon school house Thursday night at 8 p. m. called to order by R. L. Antrim. Reading of minutes of last meeting approved as read. Temporary organization was completed by electing A. Scott temporary vice-president and Frank Warren temporary treasurer.

Report from select committee was accepted. Letter from county judge Templeton was read.

The proposed cleaning of Beaverton creek from Huber avenue North to Rock creek junction was up for discussion. Many took part including Earl E. Fisher, Beaverton, Geo. Lippert, Aloha, George Burke, Cooper Mt., and 28 property owners present.

It seems that too much territory was taken in on proposed project—as the original proposition was voted down.

To save time and expense it seems best to make application to Drainage Dist. No. 2 for taking in more territory on the West—who already are organized and have tools—this will put many men to work. Help Uncle Sam and get rid of the brush and logs.

Since the meeting it has been ascertained that \$22,500 was available for said project. "Where there is no vision civilization will perish." Those people who wish to clean up the creek make application to become a part of Drainage District No. 2 at Beaverton.

## Anna Rogers President of Past Noble Grands

The Past Noble Grand club met Wednesday, December 11, at the Oddfellows hall, at which time the following officers were elected: Mrs. Anna Mae Rogers, president; Mrs. Rose Sundberg, vice-president; Mrs. Edna Sheets, secretary-treasurer.

There were sixteen members present to enjoy a two course turkey dinner at noon, followed by a business meeting. In the apron contest, nine entries were made. Winners were Mrs. Rose Stevens 1st, Mrs. Rogers 2nd, for dress aprons. Work apron awards went to Elizabeth Meyers and Florence Drorbaugh.

An Xmas tree and exchange of gifts closed a most enjoyable afternoon. Mrs. Drorbaugh was hostess.

## New Bridge Being Built, Huber-Elmonica

John Mitzell and crew of four men are busy building a new bridge over Beaverton creek 1/2 mile north of Huber, on Huber avenue crossing toward Elmonica.

This project is being rushed on account heavy traffic on this road, which is now detoured both on Wheeler avenue and Cedar street, Beaverton.

This new structure when completed will be plenty substantial to handle heavy truck traffic between Huber-Elmonica. Thirteen immense stringers, sixteen strong piling will support the new bridge, which will be fifty feet long and twenty feet wide.

## Daughters of Union Veterans have Party

The Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War met at the home of Mrs. Joe Bush of Aloha Monday for a Christmas and homecoming party. A turkey dinner was served at noon.

Places were laid for Alice Adams, Rebecca Ellerson, Alice Prink, Mary Clarke, of Scholls, Mary Porties, of Seattle, Virginia Stump of Hillsboro, Eva Bracken of Multnomah, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kelley of Nelsoncote and the hostess.

Dr. and Mrs. Edward Allen Pierce have returned to Cedar Crest Farm, their former home and will assume personal charge of their West Side Auto Camp. Dr. Pierce will open an office there for the practice of medicine. Office hours, evenings. Telephone ATwater 6741. 6259 S. W. Capitol Highway, and Bertha Station.

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