

THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1934

GRIM EVIDENCE WHY A SIDEWALK SHOULD BE BUILT

We herewith present to the highway commission the undisputable facts why a sidewalk should be built between Eugene and Springfield. Five deaths and a number of injuries due to walking on the Pacific Highway between these two cities have occurred in the last four years according to the records of the county coroner.

The chairman of the commission has raised the question "whether the money of the highway department which is derived from the motoring traffic should be applied to building of sidewalks." The evidence in this case shows that it is not always the pedestrian who suffers but often the motorist who is killed or injured as the result of people walking on the highway.

Here is the casualty list:

- WILLIAM SMITH:** Died April 9, 1930 when two cars collided to avoid striking pedestrian.
- WM. CHARLES JONSEY:** Killed March 23, 1930, when father's car skidded to avoid striking children walking on highway.
- CLELL PRYOR:** Killed March 30, 1931, while walking on highway.
- CLARA MASSIE:** Killed October 31, 1931, while walking on highway.
- HERSCHEL O'QUINN:** Killed February 16, 1934 while walking on highway.

Only a mile of gravel sidewalk is needed to take pedestrians off the pavement. It will cost only a few hundred dollars. We can't think that gentlemen of the caliber of the highway commission will quibble about spending this small amount to keep this casualty list from growing. Surely those in charge of our state highways do not wish to take the responsibility of maintaining death traps—a responsibility they will be called on to answer to before the people and God.

ALL MUST PAY SOMETHING

Not one cent of taxes toward supporting our schools is paid by 300,000 people in Oregon. More than one-half our adult population escape local taxation while 154,000 pay the total tax bill. It is evident from these facts that if there is going to be sufficient money raised to keep the schools from closing or to reduce the property tax, that the people who are not now paying contribute something.

Fifty-eight per cent of the people who have children in school pay no school taxes. If they would contribute three cents a day the school warrant situation would be solved and property taxes for school purposes could be cut 25 per cent.

Property now 40 per cent delinquent in Oregon is being called on this year to pay \$41,576,000 in taxes. The assessed valuation in Oregon is less than it was 20 years ago but it is being called upon to return \$9,000,000 more taxes. We might as well face the facts, property is not going to continue to pay the whole bill. If schools are not to be greatly curtailed or closed entirely then the non-taxpayer must contribute something. The only method devised so far to get this contribution is through the sales tax.

It costs \$60 to \$70 a year to educate a child. Surely any family might contribute \$8 to \$10 a year through the sales tax toward this bill.

A NATION OF BUSINESS

The United States of America is a business nation. More than in any other part of the world, the chief interest and mainstay of the American people is business. Let anything, natural or artificial, interfere with the free play of business, which is to say the free interchange of commodities, and chaos and distress result, affecting every individual.

We have been coming through the most distressing upset of business in our whole history. Many of the causes of the upset have been removed. We do not think this is a propitious time to set up artificial barriers to the efforts of business to adjust itself. Nor do we think well of the idea which seems to prevail in some circles, that there is something inherently discreditable about business and that all business men are to be regarded as actual or potential criminals, to be disciplined, policed and supervised.

To accept that view is to discard the foundations upon which American institutions and American progress are based.

The move to cut the retail price of liquor at the state stores looks to us like one to get the taxpayer to pay for someone else's drinks.

With all the PWA, CWA, NRA, AAA, CCC, FCA, LAB, etc., it looks like the future generation of the USA will be NSF.

Some one should offer a prize to anyone who can name all the republican candidates for governor.



The FAMILY DOCTOR

by JOHN JOSEPH GAINES MD.
FOR MOTHERS

Most of my readers will pardon me for saying I have grown grey in the service—now over forty years. . . I have seen many sweet little girl babies on their arrival at the port of this world—and have watched their growth, until they are themselves taking on the responsibilities of motherhood. The picture is interesting.

Possibly a dozen little wives have borne their babies—"first" this very winter. . . Naturally I couldn't help being interested in the outcome in each case; now, listen:

Practically everyone had unusual—from that to very serious deliveries! Does that mean anything to the thinker? I can remember well, when young girls wore WARM CLOTHING, especially on their feet and lower limbs, during winter seasons that came along about certain ages—certain epochs in their young, growing lives. Listen: It was very unusual in those days for any young wife to have serious trouble at her first childbirth! Why should it be so different in these modern, enlightened times?

Why, one of these little mothers here this winter—was in a city hospital for two extensive, dangerous operations after her baby was born. . . her life despaired of, part of the time! Came out of it an invalid for many months. Another suffered terrible injuries from rapid delivery; in fact no one among them had a "normal" confinement.

To the doctor, the question is, why? I am hazarding a guess.

These little mothers have been wearing half-shoes, thin as sheep-skin—and stockings like tissue-paper—for the last ten years; high, stylish heels—they have waded snow with equipment like that; they knew no better than to prefer the pretty—but dangerous things! We can't help blaming the mothers! I wish I could change fashion's senseless decrees!

Mott Seeks to Bring Back O. & C. Land Grant Money

Amendment to Stanfield Act To Make Full Payment Mandatory; Nearly \$50,000 Would Come to Lane County Off Set Taxes.

A bill that will enrich Lane county's treasury about \$50,000 a year in the receipts from the Oregon-California Land grant law has been introduced in congress by Representative James W. Mott. Mott seeks to amend the Stanfield act to make the full payment out of the federal treasury instead of the O. & C. fund receipts. Lane county received but \$47,621.30 or half the amount she is supposed to receive in 1933:

Under an act passed in the early 60's, the federal government granted to the Oregon-California railroad company a part of the public domain in Oregon embracing every odd numbered section of land within twenty miles on each side of the located and constructed railroad through sixteen counties in western Oregon. Originally this grant contained some three million acres.

Violation by the railroad company of certain provisions of the grant resulted in its cancellation and the reversion of the title in the United States of the unsold portion of this land.

The reversion act, approved June 9, 1916, and known as the "Chamberlain-Ferris Act" provided for disposal by the government of the land and for the payment of the net proceeds therefrom as follows:

- 50 percent to the State of Oregon and the counties affected.
- 40 percent to the United States Reclamation fund.
- 10 percent to the United States treasury.

During the fifty odd years these lands were owned by the railroad company they paid taxes to the state and the several counties of approximately \$480,000 a year and it was thought that the annual distribution of fifty per cent of the proceeds of sales of land and timber under the Chamberlain-Ferris Act would reimburse the state and counties for the tax loss incurred through reversion of the lands. Such was the purpose of this particular provision of the Chamberlain-Ferris law.

Experience proved however, that this method of reimbursement was not practicable. Very little of the land and timber was sold and for the ten years intervening between 1916 (the date of the Chamberlain-Ferris Act) and 1926, no money whatever was paid to the State of Oregon or to the counties wherein the O. and C. lands were situated.

To remedy this situation, the Stanfield Act was passed in 1926. This act provided that the Federal government should pay to the state of Oregon and to the O. and C. land grant counties, by way of appropriation out of the Federal treasury, an amount equal to the taxes which would have accrued during that ten year period had the lands remained in private ownership. This sum, amounting to about five million dollars, was paid in 1926.

The Stanfield Act also provided that each year subsequent to 1926 the treasurer of the United States, upon order of the secretary of the interior, should pay to the state and counties a sum of money equal to the tax which would have accrued for that year had the lands remained in private ownership.

From 1926 until 1932 this sum of money was computed and paid each year. In 1932, however, the O. and C. land grant counties were notified by the secretary of the interior that the O. and C. land fund (created by the Chamberlain-Ferris Act) had become depleted and that

there was sufficient money in the O. and C. fund to pay only one-half the amount due for the year 1931. Prior to this time the people of the land grant counties had supposed that these annual payments were being made out of the United States treasury, and not out of the O. and C. land grant fund. They supposed the money in the fund was being left intact for the purpose of reimbursing the government for the annual advances to the counties to cover tax loss. Objection was raised by the land grant counties that these annual payments should come from the treasury and not from the O. and C. fund, and the whole matter was referred by the interior department to the comptroller general of the United States for a ruling.

Under date of September 8, 1933 the comptroller general made his ruling, in which it was held that annual payments to the Counties wherein the O. and C. lands are situated were not payments by way of appropriations out of the Federal treasury but were contingent payments out of the O. and C. land fund. In other words, the comptroller general held that if the O. and C. land fund created under the Chamberlain-Ferris Act of 1916 did not contain sufficient money in any year to reimburse the counties for tax loss in that year, then the counties could not be reimbursed at all. He held specifically that as to payments subsequent to 1926 the Stanfield Act contains no appropriating language.

The purpose of H. R. 7980 is to amend the Stanfield Act by inserting in Section 3 thereof the appropriating language which the comptroller general has held the original act does not contain. The amendatory words are found in line 9 on page 1 of the bill and are as follows:

"Out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated." If this bill should be passed it will mean that the state of Oregon and the sixteen counties in that state, wherein the reversioned O. and C. lands are located, will receive each year from the Federal treasury an amount of money equal to the taxes which this land would have paid in such year had the same remained in private ownership. Payments under this amendment would not be contingent upon the amount of money in the O. and C. land fund, and no money would be paid out of that fund except for the purpose of reimbursing the government for money advanced from the treasury to the state and counties on account of tax loss.

Experience proved however, that this method of reimbursement was not practicable. Very little of the land and timber was sold and for the ten years intervening between 1916 (the date of the Chamberlain-Ferris Act) and 1926, no money whatever was paid to the State of Oregon or to the counties wherein the O. and C. lands were situated.

Post Preserving Formula Told

A mixture of corrosive sublimate, arsenic and common salt in equal parts will prolong the life of ordinary green fir posts, and their usefulness for such purposes as hop poles and fences can often be doubled by this treatment. This information is based on the experience of several telephone companies in the Willamette valley, according to T. J. Starker, professor of forestry. To treat a post or pole, bore a 3/4 inch hole in it about six inches above the ground, slanting downward. Put a tablespoonful of the mixture in the hole and cork it up. One hole is enough for a four-inch post and two holes for an eight-inch post.

Ducks Damaging Pastures

Ducks are reported flying by the thousands and grazing off the tideland pastures of Tillamook county, covering from 20 to 30 acres per farm in some cases. County Agent C. H. Bergstrom took this matter up with the state game warden, and efforts are being made to obtain assistance from the federal department in controlling this damage.



Washington, March 29—The labor question is at the top in Washington's official problems as this is written. A great deal hinges on the outcome of the union situation in the automobile industry. It is not yet clear whether the administration intends to back up the American Federation of Labor, which has shrewdly taken the best possible advantage of the provision for collective bargaining in the National Recovery Act, or whether it will content itself merely with seeing to it that organizations of employees are not dominated by their employers.

The Federation is engaged in a vigorous attempt to establish the principle that no union is a good union unless it is an A. F. L. union. Employees in many industries have organized their own unions. In every case the Federation has set up the claim that these "company" unions do not give the employees the right to choose their own spokesman for bargaining purposes with their employers. In some instances they are doubtless right. In other instances they have been able to get a few hotheads, discontented and dismissed employees to set up the claim that they have been discriminated against.

General Johnson, administrator of N. R. A. has accepted the company union in one of the most important cases, in which he is satisfied the employers kept their hands off and still the workers voted to organize inside the company. That doesn't please the Federation, which wants its own men to act as employees' spokesmen.

Usual Labor Reaction

One result of this situation is a larger number of strikes, and larger strikes, than have been known for many years. Some of the cooler heads in Washington regard this strike situation calmly. They point out that every period of recovery from past depressions has been marked by labor strikes and disturbances.

Any revival in business looks like a good time for workers to demand a bigger slice of the presumptive profits. So, these experienced oldsters say, the recovery must be under way, else these labor leaders would not be making such a disturbance.

It seems pretty clear from the point of view of Washington that recovery is progressing, not sedately but by fits and starts. March has been a better month than February was, so far. The outlook for April is even better. But there is nothing clear yet as to how things will be going in May and June, and some new doses of inflationary stimulant, in one form or another, may be necessary before summer is well under way. The administration has still a good many medicines in its saddle-bags that haven't been tried on the patient yet.

Capital for Industry

There seems little doubt that some form of legislation permitting "capital loans" to industry, from R. F. C. funds in part and in part by authority to Federal Reserve Banks to rediscount long-time paper, running three to five years, will be enacted before congress adjourns.

What is holding back industry is shortage of capital funds. Those are usually raised, in normal times, by new stock and bond issues. Under the Securities Act private capital is afraid to invest and corporations are afraid to offer new securities. Commercial banks cannot and should not make long-term loans. So the government must come to

the rescue in a new direction, and in addition to providing for these long-term loans the expectation is that there will be some changes in the Securities Act to enable the huge reserves of private capital which is anxious to find investment in industry but has been hampered in doing so.

Cabinet Changes Rumored

Washington gossip has it that at least three members of the Cabinet may be replaced before long. The feeling that Secretary Dern of the war department is letting the generals run things is said to be worrying the president. There is a growing belief that the attorney general, Homer Cummings, is too easy-going and too easily influenced into hasty action. And even in the president's own intimate circle a great deal of dissatisfaction is being expressed about the postmaster general, Mr. Farley. This is to some extent based upon the feeling that he put the president in a hole on the air-mail matter and let it develop so that the blame is on the president instead of on Farley. And the air-mail situation is still a major topic of interest here.

Nobody knows just who Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, famous wartime "ace" aviator, had in mind when he denounced the "traitorous advisers" of the president in his statement before the senate committee investigating the air mail, but it is certain that the unanimity of his attitude and those of Col. Lindbergh and Clarence Chamberlain have had a great effect upon public and official sentiment.

Beyond question, those on the inside say, the air mails will speedily be turned back to the people who know how and are equipped to fly them, and there will be a sweeping reorganization of the military flying forces. The weakness of the army aviation system, under which aviators get only about four hours flying a month, against 90 hours for commercial aviators, lies in the economy urge which impels the department heads to inquire why so much gasoline was used.

"Flash" Campaign On

It looks from here as if political opposition were beginning to take organized shape. A group calling itself the "Republican Builders," financed by nobody knows who, but directed by a very able newspaper man, Julian Meason, formerly editor of the New York Evening Post, is conducting an active propaganda campaign to crystallize opposition sentiment. How far it will be nobody can guess as yet, but it is evidence that the political campaign of 1936 has begun.

Paint and mortar spots may be removed from windows with hot vinegar. If they are stubborn use turpentine and sand.

LIVER FLUKE SEASON HERE; USE TREATMENT

Pastures should be treated now with bluestone for the control of liver flukes, according to County Agent O. S. Fletcher. The flukes develop in certain small snails, and when these are killed the flukes are controlled.

Demonstrations conducted in Lane county last year by the county agent with the assistance of Dr. Robert Jay, federal veterinarian stationed at and cooperating with the Oregon Agricultural college, showed that the small snails that are host in one stage of the life cycle of the liver fluke, can be killed with bluestone.

This is the time of year when snails can be killed best because the ground and water are warming up and the surface water is comparatively free from decayed vegetable matter. Bluestone (copper sulphate) should be broadcast around all snail-infested and wet, seepy places in pastures. If the snails are eradicated now there will be no mature flukes next fall and winter.

Further information on control of snails with bluestone may be obtained from County Agent Fletcher.

IUKA SEWING CIRCLE MEETING IS TODAY

Mrs. Fred Louk will be hostess at her home this afternoon for the regular meeting of the sewing circle of Iuka Circle. All members of Iuka are invited to attend.

To open a glass bottle with a glass stopper, light a match near the stopper. The bottle will open immediately, and very easily.



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