

## THRIFT DAY IDEA GROWS ON NATION

The first celebration of National Thrift Day was on February 3, 1916, and approximately a thousand communities widely scattered throughout the United States, participated in the observance.

Even with this good start resultant from a rather quickly prepared and brief presentation of the idea to the public, those who planned Thrift Day did not contemplate that its acceptance a year later, February 3, 1917, would be so universal.

In one year, Thrift Day became established in the mind of the public as firmly as any of the many legal holidays. This was undoubtedly due to a quick realization of the broad scope and purpose that underlie the Thrift Day idea.

Thrift Day was not planned to be the only day on which Thrift was to be especially practiced, but it represents rather a keen recognition of the tremendous force propelled by collective thought concentrated on one subject.

The universal acceptance of the day after its unusual celebration clearly exemplifies this.

The effect of the thought of the several hundred thousand people who accepted the idea emanating from a single source was in one year to create such enthusiasm that on the second celebration of the Day millions participated—and thus Thrift Day has come to stay.

Possibly one of the most astonishing features in connection with the establishment of Thrift Day has been the unanimous recognition of the fact that Thrift Day is to become the most potent factor in developing the daily practice of Thrift.

Thus, from the idea germ which was launched from Philadelphia in January, 1916, there has resulted not only its active acceptance, but thousands have come forth from every walk of life, and by discussion and writings have amplified and developed the idea germ from many different points of view, but always retaining the great underlying fundamental of the consistent, insistent practice of Thrift.

Prominent members of the Federal government, senators, congressmen, governors, state officials, educators, members of all professions, financial leaders, the clergy, civil and local authorities, have all discussed and written of Thrift Day from the points of view which result from their fields of endeavor, and through there is wide variance in the points of view, the trend of thought shows a cohesion and unanimity seldom duplicated in the discussion of any one subject.

With approximately 3000 communities participating in Thrift Day, February 3d, 1917, it is quite fair to assume that with each succeeding year the observance will find its way even to the smallest hamlet in the United States and must eventually reach around the world.

Fortunate is the man who on Thrift Day, February 3d, 1918, for the third time celebrates by action the principles of Thrift Day. It means that he is just that far ahead in his progress toward a greater and broader future.

Those who through lack of information failed to participate in previous Thrift Day observances, are urged to join the ever-increasing army of celebrants so that they too with each annual recurrence of the Day, will know and experience the satisfaction of the fortunate ones who began observing the Day on its first celebration in 1916.

## RURAL TEACHERS TO MEET SATURDAY

The meeting of the Rural Teachers' League, which was to have been held on January 26, was postponed to next Saturday, February 9. The place of meeting will be Room F at the public library in Portland, and the time 11 a. m. The chief topic will be the reading circle books, which will come under discussion. Many local teachers will take part on the program.

Miss Travis of Portland will endeavor to interest the teachers in the formation of a class in gymnastics, of which she will be the instructor.

An executive meeting of the County Council of Parent-Teacher associations will be held at 10 o'clock, preceding the meeting of the league.

## THRIFT DAY PARADE MADE FINE SHOWING

On account of the weather the pupils and teachers of Union High School No. 2 of Gresham gave their Thrift Day parade Tuesday afternoon instead of Monday as was announced. The school made a fine showing and marched to the beat of the drum and under the folds of Old Glory with much the same spirit and enthusiasm of their classmates whose names are represented by the stars on the high school service flag, which was also proudly carried close to the head of the line.

Patriotism and thrift were well blended and the ideas expressed by the banners were carried out in the parade. The parade was headed with a banner bearing the name "Union High School No. 2 the Patriotic School," and the divisions were headed by appropriate mottoes.

"Thrift takes the 'if' out of life."  
"We spend wisely and save earnestly."

"We save the quarters and our dollars grow."

"War savers are life savers."

Scattered along the line were smaller banners which were illustrated in various ways. "Thrift and indifference" was shown by the energetic newsboy with his wheel and by the apparent unconcern of another who strolled along swinging a cane. In "Thrift and Extravagance" the latter was shown to be richly dressed and leading a ribbon beaded dog. "Be a saver not a spender" was shown by a man in a top hat and a woman in a fur coat. "Prosperity or poverty" were others equally well carried out in different ways, boys in rags, girls reading and knitting, pupils carrying packages labeled butter, pork, etc. Boys with pockets full of money, others carrying potato forks and in many other ways the young folks of Union High school showed to the public their determination to do their bit and their disapproval of extravagance and waste and urged it upon others to do likewise. Great credit and appreciation is due them for their efforts.

Hereafter it will be expected that there will be no more half eaten lunches thrown away or bread crusts wasted as they have so strongly expressed their disapproval of waste. Lunches must of necessity consist largely of bread, butter and other needed foods, and pupils and all others carrying lunches should endeavor to take only what they will eat and take home any scraps for the chickens, cats or other domestic animals. Avoid waste and help Uncle Sam win the war.

## HISTORY TEST BRINGS ASTOUNDING ANSWERS

In the eighth grade test in history, Leland Delany, District No. 20, stood highest, at 100 per cent. The following ranked 95 per cent: George Seidel, District No. 7; Herbert Cronquist, District No. 13; Genevieve Bates, District No. 45, and Robert Holzer, District No. 51. Beside these, those making an average of 90 per cent and over were Rose Stark, District No. 45; Verne Stark, District No. 45; Rodney Jenkins, District No. 48, and Allen Seidel, District No. 29.

Perhaps no teacher in Multnomah county had any reason to suspect, when the class finished the Battle of Lake Erie, that a doubt existed in a single mind in regard to the identity of the commanding officer. Yet an examination of the answers given to No. 3 shows that in their minds Perry shared the honor with John Adams, Andrew Jackson, Robert E. Lee, Captain Hull, Captain Gray, Taylor, and McDonough.

For president of the Confederacy, Davis had a close run with Buchanan, with Andrew Jackson not far in the rear, followed by Bates, Seward, Adams, Jefferson, Lee, Lincoln, and others.

Not very complimentary to the newspapers were some of the answers to No. 19, considering the stress laid by them upon Captain Hardy's recent visit to Japan.

In history, with schools having four or more pupils taking the test, Gilbert school, District No. 45, has the highest average, 73.8 per cent.

## For Hire Service Automobiles anywhere, night or day. Phone 791, Gresham, M. M. Squire.

We have a few second-hand stoves and ranges to dispose of. L. L. Kidder Hardware Co.

Cable rates have been reduced between North and South America.

Say Thrift Stamp to the grocer.

## OPEN LETTER BY RUFUS HOLMAN ANSWERS ROADMASTER YEON

To the People of Multnomah County:

Last Friday morning while Commissioner Muck and I were sitting at the Board of County Commissioners, a messenger arrived from the roadmaster's office requesting that we not adjourn until Mr. Yeon had presented a communication which he desired the board to receive. At the conclusion of our routine work the board, out of courtesy to Mr. Yeon, took a recess to await his pleasure in presenting his communication. In due time Mr. Yeon appeared and presented a long letter addressed to the board of county commissioners which contained nothing of a constructive nature relative to the county administration which we had a right to expect, but instead it was an elaborate attack upon me personally and a discharge of his accumulated spleen. To which this is my reply:

In the first year of my term as county commissioner I took the initiative in such reorganization of the road department as seemed to be necessary for the purpose of building the Columbia River Highway, which project was initiated and supported by me. In perfecting this organization, I was responsible for the appointment of Mr. Yeon. He was to have charge of construction under the engineering supervision of Mr. Samuel C. Lancaster, who represented Major Bowly, then state highway engineer.

I believed in Mr. Yeon, and trusted him absolutely. He has repaid this confidence with deceit, misrepresentation and intrigue. I intend to demonstrate this statement herein.

In April, 1916, Mr. Yeon appeared before the board and called attention to the necessity of proper and adequate toilet facilities at Crown Point and asked for an appropriation of \$12,000 for that purpose; it being definitely stated by him that if the board would comply with his recommendation "the county would never be called upon for another cent." Realizing the need for such facilities, I myself, introduced the motion granting the appropriation. My own judgment at the time was that these facilities should be placed under the sidewalk about Crown Point and equal in the refinement of appointments to those of our best hotels. However, I deferred to Mr. Yeon's judgment in the matter.

In November of the same year there appeared an item in the tentative road budget for the following year, appropriating \$28,000 "to complete the Vista House." This was the first hint that I had received that the Vista House was to cost Multnomah county more than \$12,000. I tried to interview Mr. Yeon that I might obtain an explanation of this item; however, I was not able to see him. Thereupon I addressed a letter to him asking for an explanation. He did not reply, and I wrote a second time and still he paid no attention to my inquiry. I then reported the matter to my two associates and informed them that I would not approve another requisition for the Vista House until I understood more clearly than I then did the status of affairs. They agreed with me in the matter and the action of the board in withholding its approval to additional requisitions for the Vista House was unanimous.

At this juncture Mr. Julius Meier appeared and invited me to meet with him, Mr. Yeon, Mr. Dundore, Mr. Jaeger, Mr. Pitcock, Mr. Hoffman, Mr. Werlein and Mr. Knowles in Mr. Dundore's private office, which I did. At this meeting, and in the presence of these gentlemen, Mr. Yeon admitted that he was not constructing the building which he had represented to the board would cost the county but \$12,000, but that he was constructing an entirely different structure which would cost the county between \$40,000 and \$50,000; that he had already spent approximately \$20,000 and that it would require an additional \$28,000 to finish it; that he had not informed me of his change of plans because he said he knew without even submitting the proposition to me that I would oppose it; that the board then had the option of stopping construction and causing the waste of possibly \$20,000, besides marring beautiful Crown Point with the then unsightly excavation that had been made, or saving what had already been spent by appropriating the additional \$28,000, represented as the amount required to finish the building. I plainly stated my opinion of such unreliable conduct but believed it

better to go on under the circumstances than to stop.

All this expenditure had been made upon contracts of which the commission had no knowledge and signed for Multnomah county by John B. Yeon, roadmaster, although he had no authority so to do. I took all these contracts to the district attorney and requested that the necessary legal steps be taken to make everything conform to the laws governing the powers and duties of county commissioners. This was done by advertising for bids in the regular way, although much of the work was already in place. Here is where Mr. Yeon states that I increased the cost of the Vista House some \$8000. He has never yet demonstrated the truth of this assertion, and yet there was nothing else to do. I believe the laws of the state are enacted to be obeyed, and I cannot and should not be held responsible for the expense incident to correcting Mr. Yeon's irregularities.

All of these corrective proceedings were approved by the board of county commissioners because there was, in our opinion, no alternative in the matter; so Mr. Yeon is able to state that "all of his acts have the approval of the majority of the board of county commissioners."

Mr. Yeon now says that it would have been a crime to have built the Vista House which was to have cost Multnomah county \$12,000; that it was of temporary materials, etc.; yet he must bear in mind that it was he who recommended the project to the board of county commissioners and that it was because of the trust which the board had in him and the confidence which they placed in his judgment that prompted them to commit the county to the enterprise.

In the same way a subsequent \$15,000 was appropriated and now another \$10,000 for completion and maintenance in addition to several thousand more for walls and roadways about the structure.

This Vista House procedure is typical of Mr. Yeon's public services. Working without salary he cannot be conferred with, nor compelled to give information relative to the conduct of his department nor controlled in his actions. He states that his books are open to inspection, and yet he refused me information that I requested relative to the \$28,000 item, and it was not until I was able to shut off his financial resources that he complied with my request for an explanation. He has now an inquiry of mine under date of January 24th last, which he has not answered.

Although Mr. Yeon has talked of resigning ever since August, 1916, and has stated that he would not take a political position if "handed to him upon a silver platter," yet he continually seeks re-election, and this last time with such apparent intrigue that in my opinion it is at least not very creditable to him.

It is true that Mr. Yeon does not draw a salary from Multnomah county, and much that he has done incident to the Columbia River Highway is praiseworthy in the highest degree; yet his administrative cost this last year is seven per cent of his construction costs without taking into consideration the approximately \$6000 expense of the county surveyor's office. I have a proposal from Harrington, Howard and Ash, who built the Interstate bridge so competently and economically, and who are bridge and highway engineers of the highest rank, which was submitted at my request, to perform this service for a five per cent fee. They, of course, expect to earn a profit on a five per cent fee at that. I am satisfied that they could also reduce our construction costs.

There are also several other alternatives by which the department could be organized so as to get efficient results and still be under the administration of the board of county commissioners where it belongs.

It was with the hope of reducing the overhead cost of the roadmaster's office, as well as giving every elected official an opportunity to co-operate without duplication of his duty by the road department that I recently addressed letters to the sheriff, surveyor and auditor, and introduced certain resolutions in conformity therewith.

I am submitting herewith some photographs showing the lack of care given the county's roadmaking equipment entrusted to Mr. Yeon. There are 104 pieces of this equipment upon the Cornelius Pass road alone, that has been standing unprotected from either the

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## GRESHAM BOY SCOUTS DISPATCH MESSENGERS

The local organization of the Boy Scouts are serving the United States as dispatch bearers. The scouts distribute to Gresham homes free literature issued by the Information Bureau at Washington, D. C.

These pamphlets are to inform the people about the causes, progress and other interesting things about the war such as evidences of the German plans of conquest. With these pamphlets, which are already being distributed, is a card which, if mailed, will bring, free of cost, two other interesting publications on the war out of a list of 15, some of which are published in nine different languages.

The national slogan of the Boy Scouts is "Every Scout to Boost America" and they plan to reach eight million people directly or indirectly with this information.

An invitation has been received by the Gresham Boy Scouts to attend the national anniversary of the Boy Scouts organization, which will be held in the auditorium of the Lincoln high school, Portland, Friday evening, February 8. Scout stunts, songs and speeches will be part of the entertainment. Each scout is invited to bring another boy and the invitation is extended to any Gresham people who are interested in the work. About eight autos will be needed to take the boys to Portland and any persons who will offer the use of a car are requested to notify Geo. F. Honey, Scout Master.

## CAMPBELL'S BAND TO BE AT FAIR THIS YEAR

At a meeting of the county fair board directors yesterday a contract was signed up with Percy E. Campbell for music at the fair next fall. That means the presence here again of Campbell's American band—and everyone who heard it last year will know what this announcement means—the best music to be obtained.

A delegation of the labor unions was present and made a proposition to make the fair its greatest success by the construction of a "war ship," upon the grounds in the presence of the crowds. They promised to build it in five hours as an attraction for the multitude, showing the ability of the builders to "do things." A promise of 10,000 admissions was made from Portland. The matter was referred to a committee with instructions to go into further details, and there is a probability that ship building will be a feature at the coming fair.

## ENEMY ALIENS MUST REGISTER THIS WEEK

Postmaster Roberts is registering enemy aliens at the postoffice this week and for their benefit a few of the most necessary regulations are here given:

All males, 14 years or more, who are natives, citizens, denizens or subjects of a country with which the United States is at war, must register at the postoffice from which they receive their mail. Females are not considered as alien enemies.

Each man registering is required to furnish four pictures not larger than 3x3 of himself. Finger prints are also taken of each finger. Imprisonment or detention during the war is the punishment for those who are not registered by the 9th of February.

A registered alien must carry his registration card upon his person or else be liable to the penalty of not registering. He must obtain a permit from the registration official before he can change his residence to another. Men with only first papers are considered alien enemies and are subject to the same rules.

## GRESHAM P. T. CIRCLE TO MEET THURSDAY

The Gresham Parent-Teacher circle will meet Thursday afternoon, February 7, 1918, at 2 o'clock in the public school auditorium. Officers for the ensuing year will be elected. Miss Joyce of the O. A. C. Extension service will speak. A large attendance is desired. The following program will be given by the pupils of the school:

Pantomime, first grade children; song, "Happiness Somewhere," 5th grade girls; violin solo, Nathan Porter; recitation, "September Gale," Edgar Tibbits; song, "The Blue Birds," fifth and sixth grade; recitation, Donald McCormick; recitation, Dale Altman; song, second grade boys; recitation, Myrtle Rusher; recitation, Edith Soderquist; song, third grade; recitation, Alice Peterson.

## Automobile for Sale.

1916 Ford. In good condition. E. A. Thompson, 443 East 53d street, Portland, phone Tabor 2841.

## W. B. A. to Play Cards.

The Women's Benefit association of Rockwood will give a card party at the Maccabee hall on Saturday evening, February 9. Light refreshments will be served. Admission and refreshments, 25 cents.

## Bargains in the Want Ads.

## CHANCE WILL BE GIVEN FOR FULL REGISTRATION

County Clerk Beveridge is authority for the statement that a registration officer will be placed in Gresham within a few weeks for registration of voters.

All new voters must register before Apr. 17, and all who have moved from their old precincts into others must register again. The opportunity will be open for all in ample time.

There will also be an officer at other points, and an effort is being made to have deputies at the shipyards. Every effort will be made to have all voters registered.

Mr. Beveridge says that he will bring about a few reforms in the conduct of elections this year, one of which will be that each ballot will be counted as it is taken from the box instead of following a former custom of counting the candidates first and then going back to the amendments.



LOUIS ALBERT BANKS  
Gresham is promised one of the greatest intellectual treats that ever came to a country town when, on February 20, the renowned Louis Albert Banks will give one of his most forceful lectures here.