



The heat has been turned on the lawmakers by the "powers that be" in an all-out attempt to fold up the session by Saturday, March 10 and adjourn sine die. However, but very few are sanguine enough to think such an objective can be accomplished before the latter part of next week. The "wise men" say March 15 is the earliest date to expect adjournment, and as things look now the session could very easily go a couple of days beyond that time. It may be that the lawmakers intend to turn out the lights in a blaze of glory on St. Patrick's Day, March 17. Plenty of important legislation is still pending for the consideration of both houses, which is bound to call for lengthy debate. All of this takes time, and inasmuch as the majority of the legislators are against holding lengthy night sessions, it's reasonable to believe the lawmakers will still be at their tasks next week.

Legislators have been approached from many angles for some sort of legislation that might curb some of the methods of OPA in seeking evidence by fair means or foul upon which to obtain fines and closures. Complaints have been piling strong from business people, who have claimed OPA's policy has been to harass and browbeat rather than guide and help merchants in a difficult and confusing situation. But nothing in the way of legislation has been devised.

Legislators drew much satisfaction from the appearance on the Portland front last week of a new type of OPA executive—one Commissioner Marvin E. Lewis from San Francisco, who came up to hear the evidence against merchants caught in the dragnet of the famous "Christmas day food stamp cancellation." Lewis heard the evidence of the local OPAers and kicked the whole mess out without stopping to as much as hear the defense of the merchants. Lewis apparently rode roughshod over the local bureaucrats and summed his opinion of what they had done with the statement "The matter is dismissed."

"It seems," said one legislator who had given the subject considerable thought, "that even in a bureaucracy there is a saving clause in the form of higher-ups who have common sense and believe in fair play in dealings with reputable merchants. I think this action in Portland makes it unnecessary for us to worry about some kind of legislation to get at the same problem."

The pressure groups and their lobbyists have been mighty busy all week trying to get their bills

through one house or the other before adjournment. In the house, the Oregon liquor control commission have several bills which passed the senate only to run up against plenty of opposition when they arrived. In the senate, the house-passed firemen's pension bill is still buried deep in spite of all efforts to get it out on the floor for a vote. Several other highly controversial bills are in the same fix—by being passed in one house to be stalled in the other. House bills involving the hot subjects of taxes, fish, and milk have reached the senate, where they are certainly getting a good going over by having plenty of amendments tacked on for the house to concur in—or else.

From the looks of the tax situation, state income taxpayers will not get any discounts on their 1946 tax bill, such as they did in 1944 when they received a 75 percent discount, and 30 percent for this year, 1945. Approximately five million dollars more is needed for state aid to schools, and the lawmakers are of the opinion this amount can best be obtained by wiping out any state income tax reductions for the years 1946-47. The ways and means committee is still looking for ways to get more money, which they say is necessary to meet ever increasing state expenses. Cigarettes are being eyed as a good source of tax revenue, and other luxuries may be added. The search goes on and on for more tax money. Another proposal for additional revenue is a state tax on draft and bottle beer.

So far this session the legislators are running about neck and neck for bills introduced and passed, as against the same time last session. However, before the boys adjourn it looks like they will beat the mark set by the 1943 assembly for bills introduced, because they will remain in session longer. The house, as usual, is away ahead of the senate in the number of bills dropped in the hopper.

### Johnie Knew How Many

"There were twenty sheep in the pasture and one jumped over the fence. How many were left?" So asked teacher and up shot Johnnie's hand. Said he, "Not a sheep was left, for if one goes over they all follow."

RIGHTO Johnnie and we are all like sheep, for all we, like sheep, have gone astray—BIBLE. God sees us out in the fields of sin and yet he loves us. He proved his love, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Of the day of Christ's death, we read that Christ, bearing his cross, went forth to a place called Golgatha and there they crucified him.

Then as Christ hung on the cross, God laid our sins on Him. All the sins of all men were laid on Him. Name the most shameful crimes and the blackest deeds of the lowest human brutes and you sense what it must have been for Christ, the Sinless One, to have become sin for us. All that is murder, theft, lying, profanity and all that is unspeakable, Christ became. Then the fierce wrath of God followed over and burned itself out on Him. You see how God loves the sinner but his wrath is against the sin. So Christ paid the penalty to free the sinner.

Yes, God so loved the world that he gave his only Begotten Son to pay the penalty and free all who would believe in him. The debt is paid. Count yourself cleared—Be at peace with God. And make your prayer—THANK YOU GOD FOR SALVATION. From now on look utterly to Christ to see you through. Live by power from on high.

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## THE ROCKETBOOK OF KNOWLEDGE

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## OUT OF THE WOODS

BY JIM STEVENS

### In the Beginning . . .

When Captain George Vancouver sailed into the Sound he was to name Puget more than 150 years ago, the Douglas fir region, then nameless, was as much a land of mystery and legend as darkest Africa.

On the decks of the sailing ships that anchored in the Sound men gazed at the towering black walls of a primitive forest that rose and dipped in unbroken vistas to the horizon except where stony mountain peaks rose above timberline.

So in the same year the men of Captain Robert Gray beheld the forest from the deck of the Columbia, anchored in the estuary of the "Great River of the West."

Entering that forest, a man might be lost within 30 paces, unless he followed an Indian trail or steam bed. Hardwoods and shrubs grew wherever they could steal land and light from the ruling trees. Huge rotting windfalls met the explorers at every turn. It was a jungle region in the temperate zone.

### Start of the Timber Trade . . .

When he sailed home from his northwest discovery the ships of Captain Vancouver bore new masts and yards, and many new planks and timbers from the king trees of the Puget Sound forests. Thus, the incomparable

value of the yet nameless Douglas fir for the masting of ships was made known to the shipbuilders and sailors of England, and they were its first salesmen.

The next world market opened for Pacific Northwest wood was the Sandwich Islands—now the Hawaiian. In 1828 boards were shipped from the Ft. Vancouver sawmill on Hudson's Bay Company schooners to the Islands. Kanakas were brought back to get out the logs and whack up the lumber. So our Pacific timber trade began.

When the covered wagons began to roll down the Barlow Trail a local market was made for Dr. McLoughlin's lumber. Other water power mills sprang up with the settlements.

Then the United States of America hi-jacked California and other provinces away from honest Mexico. This dirty work at the crossroads is shame on our history, but it paid off at once. Gold was discovered on the Sacramento, and a wonderful boom was on.

In 1849 a million feet of lumber was shipped from the Willamette Valley to California. Within five years sawmills were cutting all through the Douglas fir wilderness for California and world trade.

The Ax and Saw Forever . . .  
Regional history has a lot to

## Sawdust . . .

Americans are notably forgetful of circumstances which have caused them trouble in the past, or if not forgetful, they tend to become soft-hearted and let by-gones be by-gones. In world affairs we tend to let matters take their course with the result that we usually suffer the consequences of that soft-hearted attitude. At this time the Jap-Americans are being allowed to return to the Pacific coast from relocation centers established shortly after Pearl Harbor and that permission to return has created a lot of animosity, especially among those Americans who lived near the Japs before the evacuation.

Appearing in the Eagle last week were two letters telling of the existence of Americans in Japanese prisons in the Philippines. Everyone, no doubt, has also read other accounts of the atrocities perpetrated by the Japs there. Perhaps it is difficult to understand the attitude of people in communities here where Japs formerly lived. Many of those people have taken a definite stand objecting to the return of the Japanese and no doubt they have excellent reasons for their objections. Perhaps if these people and those Americans who have been im-

prisoned by the Japs in the Philippines were permitted to determine future policies regarding the Jap-American question, the solution would be more satisfactory in the long run than a solution made by the majority who have had little, if any, close relations with the Japs.

Orvel Edwards is seeing without benefit of specs due to an accident a few days ago. His story is that his glasses were broken when he walked into a chimney in the dark. That's about as bad as the man whose arms were longer than his nose. . . . Uncle Sam isn't going to like Vivian Laird if she doesn't count change better. A post office customer handed her a dollar in payment for 60c worth of postage and she gave him back 60c in change which doesn't figure out right according to the way the school books read. The customer was honest, though, and corrected the error . . .

This one came across the desk last week and is passed on here for your entertainment. It appeared in The Forest Log, monthly publication of the Oregon State Board of Forestry and is entitled: "A Smack in the Dark" (Smelodrama in one act).

Scene: A Pullman section in a train headed for California, via Klamath Falls.

Characters: A little old lady, a very lovely lassie, a Marine sergeant and a buck private.

Of a sudden the train enters a tunnel. During the ensuing darkness there is heard a kiss, followed by a hefty sock. When the train comes into daylight again the Marine sergeant sports a beautiful black eye.

The little old lady thinks: "Lawdy me! How refreshing to see such a lovely young girl resist the attentions of that brute."

The lovely lassie thinks: "How strange that he should try to kiss that little old lady instead of me."

The Marine Sergeant thinks: "That buck private is a smart guy. He steals a kiss and I get socked for it."

The Buck Private thinks: "That is one for Uncle's history book. I kiss the back of my hand, sock a Marine sergeant, and get away with it."

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