



Oregon Journal - Nov. 10, 1939
DRAGONS ARE COMMONPLACE

Dr. William Beebe, who finds it hard to believe what he sees when he studies life deep in the ocean. He is to speak tonight in Benson Tech auditorium.

Sea Denizens Make Dragons Look Sissy, Says Dr. Beebe

By Dudley L. McClure

Creatures living deep in the ocean make the grotesque, man-made Chinese dragons look as commonplace as an army mule, says Dr. William Beebe, here to speak tonight in the Benson Tech auditorium.

And the scientist of the New York Zoological society knows what he's talking about for he has taken a look around at various levels in the briny deep, the greatest depth being 3028 feet. That record dive was set off the coast of Bermuda in 1934 in Dr. Beebe's world-famous bathysphere.

Some Have Lights

"All creatures at that depth are equipped with lights and many are of terrifying shape, although not necessarily large," Dr. Beebe said, stretching his long form comfortably across his Multnomah hotel bed as he chatted.

"Some life I've seen far below the surface is so surprising I don't believe it myself," the simple-speaking scientist-adventurer explained.

Dr. Beebe said his bathysphere has been tested to withstand pressure a mile deep, but that he has no intention of going deeper than the 3028 feet. That is as far down

as he considers it necessary to go for scientific needs and a deeper dive simply "would be a stunt." It could be done, however, he believes.

Knows Burg

In speaking of his work in Bermuda waters, he remembered an old Portland friend, Amos Burg, the young explorer and adventurer whose work for the National Geographic society has attracted wide attention. He planned to get in touch with Burg, who was a photographer with one of the early Beebe diving expeditions.

Another local friend is William L. Finley, lecturer and The Journal naturalist writer. They met years ago in New York, where Finley has talked a number of times. Finley will introduce Dr. Beebe at tonight's lecture, which is one of a series arranged by Navy post No. 101, American Legion.

The last two winters Dr. Beebe has spent in diving explorations off the west coast of Mexico and he and Mrs. Beebe have spent considerable time in Hollywood.

"Mrs. Beebe is a playwright and historian," her husband explained modestly in her absence here. "One of her plays, 'Queen's Folly,' opened last night in New York."

Sprague Sees Salem Need

Governor Speaks At Molalla Meet

Oregonian - Nov. 19, 1939

MOLALLA, Nov. 18 (Special) After commending Oregon City for the "able management under its city manager," Governor Charles A. Sprague, himself a Salem publisher, Friday night here placed himself on record in favor of city manager form of government for the capital city.

Under able management of its city manager, Oregon City has progressively improved and set an example over the state, he asserted before the Council of Clackamas County Cities at its November session here.

Describing Salem's council form of government, with 14 city councilmen, as a complicated, cumbersome and an archaic form of government, he declared: "We in Salem realize we need it." The governor then went on to declare one of the Willamette valley's most pressing problems is that of stream contamination.

Streams Held Objective

"We must look forward to cleaning up our streams, not only the Willamette river, but its tributaries."

Before a public meeting following the Council of Cities session, Governor Sprague, after cracking at what he characterized as "relief racketeers" and those "who make a career of relief," asserted public assistance will be one of the major problems for the next legislature.

"Old-age assistance has kept growing until it now consumes two-thirds of our public welfare program," he said.

He declared the active jobless file with the state employment service had declined from 87,057 persons in September, 1938, to 26,872 last September, "a remarkable record of placement."

Aid Sum Cited

The figure, however, does not refer to those on WPA though, "at that time we had on the relief rolls practically no employables."

Unemployment compensation checks paid out during October, he said, amounted to \$181,000, as against \$212,652 the same month in 1938.

Turning to state institutions, he declared the penitentiary "is in very worthy hands," but characterized the state hospital as "fire trap" and that it should be reconstructed and supplemented with "a new building."

He predicted a deficit of \$1,000,000 at the end of the current biennium.