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STATE OF THE UNION

Charles V. Stanton

President Eisenhower's state of the Union message, we imagine, will please no one—other than the majority of the American public.

Political leaders of both parties doubtless will "view with alarm" the President's middle-of-the-road policies.

With a mighty struggle for political power shaping up Ike gave little comfort to either party in his message opening the session of Congress. It doubtless will be found disappointing to Republicans, in that it failed to provide the "clean sweep" strategy demanded by conservative G.O.P. leaders, who would toss into the discard all vestiges of the New Deal-Fair Deal administrations. It will likewise disappoint Socialist-Democrat party leaders because it provides so little target for their propaganda barrage.

The first year of Ike's administration has made the conservative wing of the Republican party very unhappy. He has insisted upon gradual and carefully studied change. Much of the party leadership insists on complete and immediate change. The state of the Union message indicates that Eisenhower is determined to stick to his slow and deliberate pace.

"At this moment we are in a transition from a wartime to a peacetime economy," he told Congress. "I am confident," he concluded, "that we can complete this transition without serious interruption in our economic growth."

Abrupt Change Dangerous

Impatient Republicans should realize that abrupt change in political policy would seriously threaten our economy.

We have for 20 years stimulated inflation. We have built up a fragile inflationary economy which, without careful handling, could collapse like a pricked balloon. The Eisenhower administration has succeeded in halting the upward spiral. It has brought a leveling off. A situation now exists in which wages remain comparatively high, while cost-of-living is holding level.

That he proposes to continue the gradual and deliberate process of political policy change was made quite clear in his report to Congress. Yet he made it equally clear that change will be brought about in due time.

He outlined a program of "partnership" rather than dictatorship; aid where needed, regulation where needed, guidance and assistance to encourage private industry to take over business functions now usurped by government, gradual adjustments of agricultural economy with standby subsidy if required, orderly and efficient management of natural resources on cooperative basis.

This trend away from government regulation and toward partnership will provide ammunition for the forthcoming propaganda barrage. The President undoubtedly is fully aware of the opening afforded the opposition. But, disregarding this factor, he proposes to hew to the pattern drawn for the political structure he is endeavoring to erect.

No Quarter For Commies

Particularly interesting was his oblique reference to the "Communists-in-government" issue. He hinted of dissatisfaction with the present headline-seeking policies now in operation, but offered evidence that he proposes to deal more sternly with subversives than has yet been attempted.

Reporting that more than 2,200 employees have been weeded out of government for security reasons, he announced that a new program for locating "Reds" within the government family was to be recommended. This statement could be taken as a backhanded slap at Senator McCarthy's tactics. But, at the same time, Eisenhower said he would propose legislation to strip American citizenship from persons convicted of conspiring to overthrow the government by force.

Here, we expect, is a policy the public will applaud vigorously.

Ike's state of the Union message, we believe, will arouse plenty of comment from politically-motivated critics, but will give a sense of security and satisfaction to the average citizen.

Hal Boyle

HOMETOWN, U.S.A. UP—"What makes men hold on to their money so?" demanded Trellis Mae Peckle, America's most average housewife.

Wilbur lowered his morning newspaper until their eyes met across the breakfast table.

"Dear," he said, "a wife's conversation is like a jigsaw puzzle—it takes a fellow some time to make any kind of pattern out of it. What are you trying to get at? I don't know any man who is holding on to his money."

"Well, Winthrop Rockefeller is. I read it in the newspaper before you got up."

"Is he? How does he do it?"

"By refusing to give it to Bobo."

"What's a Bobo?"

"Oh, don't act so dumb. Bobo is Winthrop's wife," said Trellis Mae, who always spoke of famous people by their first name.

"Why won't he give it to Bobo?" replied Wilbur, who was trying to read an article about the electric power problem in India.

"Well, they are separated, and Winthrop moved to Arkansas to forget it all. Now he wants to settle six million dollars on her, but his lawyer says Bobo is holding out for ten million dollars. Isn't that a silly thing to quarrel over?"

"It could be a matter of principle," said Wilbur. "And four million dollars is a pretty big principle."

"If she takes the six million dollars," mused Trellis Mae, "it says she could invest it so as to get about 120,000 tax-free dollars a year. That's not so much, is it?"

"Only about 325 bucks of so a day, including Sundays and the 29th of February during leap years," dryly remarked her husband. "But, of course, if she took it in silver dollars it would make quite a jingle in her purse."

"Whose side are you on, anyway?" asked his wife.

"I don't believe in mixing in family quarrels. I wish they'd kiss and make up—even if it put 50 divorce lawyers in a breadline."

"Well, I certainly think you'd be more generous than Winthrop. Remember what you told me when we had our first big quarrel and I threatened to leave you?"

"No, indeed," said Wilbur cautiously.

"You told me I could have half of everything you owned."

"Yeah, that was nice of me. But what did I own then?"

"You didn't own anything. You were even overdrawn at the bank."

"Well," said Wilbur, "if Winthrop was in the same spot I was, I'll bet he'd be just as big a sport about it. You always have to take the circumstances into consideration. Why didn't you leave me anyway?"

"With no carfare and mother 300 miles away?" laughed Trellis Mae.

"A girl has to be practical. I wouldn't leave you even if you made the same offer again today to give me half of everything you have in the bank."

Wilbur looked at her suspiciously.

"Is our account overdrawn again?" he demanded. Trellis Mae nodded.

"I thought this conversation finally would lead somewhere," said Wilbur crossly. "Why can't you be more careful about your check stubs?"

"I will," promised his wife. Grumbling as he started to leave for work, Wilbur held out his hand for his usual two-dollar lunch money and cigarette allowance. Trellis Mae put only a single dollar in it.

"A buck for lunch," griped Wilbur. "A mouse can't live on that."

"My mouse can," said his wife. She kissed him.

"G'bye, Bobo," he said.

"G'bye, Winthrop."

This Could Prove to Be Awfully Expensive!



PEERY MEDICALS

BY W.K. PEERY

To visitors from the New England states, it seems incredible that less than one hundred and thirty years ago there was no settlement of white men above the mouth of the Columbia River. Our great hydroelectric systems, our huge lumber mills and ships crowding the docks of the Columbia, are developments within the memory of any of our senior citizens living here today.

When Fort Vancouver was established in 1825 by the British, its founders did not dream that the things they wrought there would fire the minds of visiting Americans, who wrote home to the east coast about the unlimited possibilities this new land possessed.

McLoughlin did a number of things at Fort Vancouver for which our generation owes him a vote of gratitude. He built and launched the first ocean-going ship, he built the first flour mill, and the first sawmill in the Oregon Territory. But more important, he was the first to introduce agriculture in the Northwest. He was the first cattle breeder in the Northwest, and the first to export the products of his farm and forest lands to a foreign land.

So soon as he became established at Fort Vancouver, McLoughlin started the construction of small forts throughout the Northwest as outposts for his fur trade. His only post in Oregon was two hundred miles south of the Columbia. Bancroft says, "(It) was situated near the confluence of Elk Creek with the Umpqua River, and occupying a fine position among the hills of that beautiful country. It was but a small place, with a twenty-acre farm attached, under the charge of a French trader. The neat dwellings and other buildings were surrounded by the usual palisade, with bastions at the corners, for the Indians in this quarter were more savage than those in the vicinity of the Columbia."

From this we learn that farming in Douglas County was introduced by the Hudson's Bay company in their fort near the present town of Scottsburg. Michael La Framboise, head trapper leading a party out from Fort Vancouver selected the site. That was somewhere around 1834. That was the year Jason Lee and his Methodist party started west from Missouri.

There is nothing left of this fort on the Umpqua. Time and the elements long past swept over the site of the old fort. But the company proved that farm crops could be raised in Douglas County. This information was doubtless passed on to the Americans when they straggled down the rocky bed of Canyon Creek with their ox-teams and wagons, and came into the beautiful valley of the Umpqua. Before that, others, like Jesse Applegate had heard the same story about the productivity of the better lands of the area. Hudson's Bay had set in motion forces we feel here to this day.

It must be acknowledged that the great company had no intention of promoting agriculture and the settlement of Oregon when they straggled down the rocky bed of Canyon Creek with their ox-teams and wagons, and came into the beautiful valley of the Umpqua. Before that, others, like Jesse Applegate had heard the same story about the productivity of the better lands of the area. Hudson's Bay had set in motion forces we feel here to this day.

But in developing agriculture and stock farming, the Hudson's Bay Company unconsciously planted the seed that would bring in a flood of American emigration, a flood that would sweep the British away from the Columbia. All this for the reason that the Methodist and Presbyterian missionaries, along with other visiting Americans, were a pioneer people on the lookout for new lands and new crops. They were an observant lot. In their letters home they told of the wonders of the Oregon Canaan.

OREGON CITY UP — A Crown Zellerbach safety supervisor from Olympia died Thursday shortly after being rescued from a river-bank ledge following a 75-foot plunge in his car.

The victim, Fred Pontin, 63, was rescued by boat and brought across the river to a hospital here. Rescuers said when they reached him his pulse was strong. But he was dead on arrival at the hospital.

There were no witnesses to the mishap in which the car plunged over the cliff at the rear of the West Linn Inn, but from tire tracks this was learned: Pontin's car went over a 10-inch lumber edging a parking area, rolled 30 feet down a bank, crossed a board walk, crashed through the walk's wooden guardrail then dropped to the river.

Pontin was seen immediately afterward but brambles and the steep bluff made rescue from the river the only practicable route.

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

We were steady to higher in the early trade.

Why is that interesting enough to print?

Well, if people are hopeful enough to bid up prices, it indicates that they think the country isn't going to pot. Personally, I'm pretty sure that what the people think and do in this year of readjustment of our economy is more important than what the crystal ball gazers tell us.

The livestock markets are particularly interesting at this moment because they are influenced by the play of supply and demand and not by government subsidies. Hog prices are rising because fewer pigs were born last year and as a result fewer hogs are coming on the slaughter markets now. Pork prices are still within the range that consumers are willing to pay, and so pork is being EATEN UP faster than it is presently being produced.

That is a sound economic reason for a rise in prices.

Slaughter cattle prices were steady to higher when the market opened in Chicago Wednesday morning. That also is interesting because it means that at the moment supply and demand for beef are roughly in balance.

Fortunately for the cattle industry, no HUGE STORED SURPLUS of beef hangs over the market. There has been no cattle subsidy. The government hasn't been buying up beef and stashing it away to keep prices up. As a result, beef prices are down and people have been eating a lot of beef. Apparently, we ate about eight billion more cattle and calves in 1953 than in the preceding year.

Eating meat is far sounder than stashing it away.

As to the farm products that HAVE been covered by government subsidies, the situation is not so sound. The government now has on hand, according to the latest figures available, about five billion dollars worth of these products that have been acquired in the course of the price support program.

That unconsumed surplus hangs

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FRANKLIN D. ROSSVELT, FOUNDER

GIVE—HELP ME WALK — Delbert "Debby" Dains, 4, from Gooding, Idaho, will call for help from the March of Dimes poster in the annual campaign of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis for funds to fight polio. His picture will be seen throughout the nation on billboards, posters, contribution cards and coin collectors.

Mrs. J. Edwards Drive Chairman In Oakland Area

By EDITH DUNN
Mrs. John Edwards will again have charge of the March of Dimes drive in Oakland.

Various activities will be conducted, including the annual dinner and kangaroo court. Oakland is proud of its past record, as it has been one of the leading contributors in the county for several years. More money is needed this year, officials report, to pay for the serum tests that may stem the disease.

Returns Home
Mrs. Lloyd Davis has returned from several weeks visit with relatives at Riverside, Calif. She expects to return to Riverside later to make her home. Her sons, Floyd and Gene, and their families will

also make their homes at Riverside. Mr. and Mrs. Francis Crist are spending several days with Crist's relatives at Seattle, Wash. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clark Carol and Ricky spent the holidays with relatives at Eureka, Calif. The theme of Dr. Homer M. Noble's sermon at Oakland Community Presbyterian Church Sunday will be "Jesus, Paragon and Paradox." Members and friends of the church will have a potluck dinner at the parish hall following church services. The annual meeting of the church will be held in the afternoon, with reports for the year and an election of officers.

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