

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sway Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 23, 1851

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THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.
Member of the Associated Press

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More of the Same?

A very apt answer to the democratic demand from the republicans for something constructive is the retort: Just what are the democrats proposing that is constructive? Is their answer going to be "more of the same?"

Just what is the democratic policy for the next four years? Having had four years in office, the Rooseveltians should be able to outline a specific program for the immediate future. What is it?

Shall we have four years of deficits, with the public debt mounting by from two to four billions a year?

Shall we have four more years of a prosperity which rests on unstable foundations of government borrowing and spending, and a rubber dollar of uncertain value?

Shall we have four more years of boondoggling, of extravagance in relief administration, of worthless works, or absurd ventures like the Florida ship canal?

Shall we have a revival of the NRA with its aid to monopoly, and its regimentation of business?

Shall we have four more years of hasty enactment of ill considered legislation, so defective it will not measure up to the requirements of the constitution?

Shall we have four more years of planned scarcity, the destruction of food animals and growing crops?

Shall we have four more years of increasingly heavy importation of corn and wheat and other foodstuffs into this country?

Shall we have four more years of a policy which deprives American farmers of their foreign markets?

Shall we have four more years of policy which turns southern share croppers off the land, and takes away the jobs of cotton workers while prices to consumers of cotton goods soar?

Shall we have four more years of a labor policy which increases industrial strife, encourages, strikes with attendant turmoil and loss to wage-earners, employers and consumers?

Shall we have four more years of a labor policy which proposes no sound basis for social justice, but transfers power to radical labor leaders?

Shall we have four more years of whipping up of class divisions and invoking of class hatreds in a country which ought to be free from class lines?

Shall we have four more years of a rubber stamp congress and a supreme court threatened by the encroachment of the ambitious executive departments?

What specifically are the democrats proposing? Are they going to try to amend the constitution to give the central government absolute power to dictate the economic and industrial life of the people? Are they going to pack the supreme court with more yes-men for the new deal? Are they going to turn loose on the country a fresh crop of Rex Tugwells eager to "make America over" along lines they have figured out in Harvard university or Columbia?

It seems to The Statesman that the democrats have quite as big a task in being "constructive" and "avoiding generalities" as the republicans.

In brief the constructive and definite program of the republicans is this:

1. Balance the budget by eliminating waste and if necessary increasing taxes.
2. Restore and preserve free enterprise, subject to reasonable regulation by states or the federal government, in their appropriate spheres.
3. Establish prosperity on a firm basis of private work and effort, providing adequate employment at good wages; on the basis of a sound currency and of restored trade, both domestic and foreign.
4. Hold fast to the civil liberties guaranteed by the constitution, and now threatened by alien forms of social organization.
5. Assure to labor jobs and to farmers markets and to consumers prices determined by fair competition instead of monopoly.
6. Develop the American conception of democracy, free from class divisions and animosities; with ownership of property widely distributed; with liberty for individuals to rise to the top by use of their energies and resources.

Heading the republican ticket is Alfred M. Landon, governor of Kansas, a "typical American"; no inheritor of a fortune, but one who has in the hard field of business demonstrated his own competence; no political messiah or worker of political magic; a man who knows the people because he is one of them; a man who has shown independence of judgment and of character; a man who proposes to invite the nation's leaders to assist in the solution of national problems. Second man on the ticket is Frank W. Knox, another "typical American", who rose from newsboy to become proprietor of a large newspaper, who has a progressive viewpoint without the fringe of hazy radicalism.

These men, on the constructive platform for saving the country proposed by the republicans, are worthy of the suffrage of the American people in the November election.

"It Can't Happen Here"

It seems almost incredible that an entire town could be snuffed out by flames within a few hours, as was Bandon in the night hours a few days ago. People live ordinarily in such security that they think catastrophes must always be remote.—floods in Texas, drouth in Dakota, fires in crowded cities. Scourges of fire or famine or disease "can't happen here." Yet they do come, at times unforeseen.

The Bandon fire, coming on top of the heavy fire loss in Tillamook county three years ago should knock clear out of our heads the customary complacency that forest fires will not occur again, or if they do happen, will not prove very destructive. There is simply no sure way of stopping a great wall of flames "crowning" through the wooded country. Often all that can be done is to wait for nature to send rain or damp winds.

Such being true, much sharper discipline is necessary to protect cities and forests in the timber country. This means limitation of movement into the forest area in the times of low humidity. It means no burning of slashings until safety is assured. It means much greater restriction of hunting privileges in the fall of the year. What is the pleasure of a few deer-hunters compared with the preservation of the state's forest wealth and scenic beauty? The state must preserve these resources or it will become an empty, uninhabited waste.

The immediate necessity is the relief of the destitute. Citizens of Oregon should respond with great liberality in providing cash as well as commodities for Bandon and vicinity. Permanent reconstruction will call for careful planning in which non-residents can do very little, aside from properly constituted authorities. But now, make a donation to the Red Cross relief fund. Do it today; as a measure of your sympathy, and a token of gratitude that you have escaped the loss and suffering which befell those poor people.

Fairview Hunters Return From Trip With Two Deer

FAIRVIEW, Sept. 29.—Two fine deer were bagged by Harry Allison and son John, Haven Un-

ruh and Mr. Bass of Fairview neighborhood, who returned from a hunting trip in eastern Oregon Friday. Will Marley, W. J. Pentney and John Reed left Thursday on a deer hunting trip to eastern Oregon.

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

3-30-36

Beginnings of the Oregon state training school for boys; matter was opened by Statesman.

Looking over the files of The Statesman for the last days of 1886 and the opening ones of 1887, searching for items about the first bridge across the Willamette, which was at Salem, the writer found a good many interesting facts.

The reader will recall the direct results of the search in the series of this column taking up the three issues, Sept. 12-13.

The fight for a bridge having resulted in victory, the publishers of that period were emboldened to go forward in advocating a number of other things promising the city's growth and the country's development.

Among these were a woolen mill, canning and packing concerns, street railways, prohibition of live stock and poultry running at large on the streets, etc., and further to state institutions including reform schools for delinquent boys and girls.

The issue of December 17, 1886, contained at least three articles, under the titles, "The Reform School Matter," "Reform the Reform School," and "Reform the Parents First."

The first named article opened: "The Statesman has aroused considerable interest in the question of the establishment of a reform school in this state. . . . We want to say that at the time 10 suspensions stood against unruly boys in the Salem public schools. It was argued:

"That it is right and proper to suspend unruly boys from the privileges of free education at the hands of the public, there can be hardly a question—for it is not the proper thing to inculcate the good and well behaved children with the presence of the bad and unruly."

"When you find rotten apples in your bins you throw them out, for fear that they will make the sound ones rot. This is the same principle."

"But the question again recurs to us, what will we do with the unmanageable youths? Will we leave them on the streets to go through a training for the penitentiary, to sink clear below the stream of decent society?"

Would it not be better to provide a cure for them if possible? Would it not be a sound principle of business to establish a reform school?"

"Some will say reform the parents first. True they need reforming, but this does not settle the question. Many of these boys will come from the streets, and it is a poor time to begin to reform them after their habits have been made a part of their existence. The legislature meets in January, and it will have a chance to give us something definite and practical on this subject."

The matter under the second named title read in part:

"The attention of the Oregon legislature is respectfully directed to the fact of the need of a reform school in this state. Such institutions have been established and are conducted in most of the states of the union, and are regarded as necessary adjuncts and helps to the preservation of society."

"There are now standing 10 suspensions of boys from 10 to 18 years of age from the Salem public schools alone. These boys are troublesome and disobedient, and are especially annoying to lady teachers, and they must be sent out on the streets, there to acquire habits of vicious idleness, that will fit them for cells in the penitentiary."

"It seems hard to send these troublesome boys out of the school room into the streets, but their presence is made unbearable by their conduct there, and it is a necessity. Then what is to be done with them?"

"Will you leave them on the streets to grow up criminals and outcasts of our state?"

"Putting it down on a solid business basis, will it pay for the taxpayers to let this matter rest as it now stands?"

"Will we have no other place to send the criminal and unmanageable youth of our state except to the penitentiary?"

"The penitentiary is surely not a success as a reformatory institution. To mix these with the criminally vicious and to associate with the vilest outcasts of society, who are not in sympathy with the laws of the state, or the rules and usages of honesty, honor or decency, is surely not a good school for the youth who is already on the downward path, who is already out of sympathy, out of step, with the tacit rules of respectable society, and good order."

"This is a question that deserves the attention of our legislature."

"The proper care of the youth of the land is the hope of the future progress and morals of our country. As the twig is bent the tree is inclined, is an axiom."

"Of course the establishment of a reform school will not settle the whole question of the unmanageable and hoodlum youth of the state, but the same will be a hazard the prediction that it will be a great help, and will be a paying investment to taxpayers."

"With this opinion in view, public attention is directed to the subject."

The third title was over a communication by George Henry, in which he said he had noted the appeal of The Statesman for a state reform school, and the statement that there were then standing 10 suspensions of boys from 10 to 18 years of age in the Salem public schools. (Concluded tomorrow.)

On the Record

By DOROTHY THOMPSON

Claims of Dictatorship

I have waited to comment on Hitler's proclamation at the Nuremberg Party Congress until the German newspapers should

reach here and I would have an official German text before me. Now the papers are here, and the text baffles the imagination. I doubt if ever a speech was made in history, insulting to a larger number of nations, and insulting to ordinary intelligence as well. The speech contains a long list of the specific claims of the German dictatorship. Were these claims tenable, Mr. Hitler would stand as the greatest miracle man in history, and a most powerful argument would be made for dictatorship everywhere. Inside Germany not one of them will be challenged in any newspaper or any platform or in any publication. Outside Germany it is more difficult to contest them, because all the facts are not known. But they ought to be analyzed on the basis of what is known about the people of the democratic world have been treated to very misleading propaganda.

Mr. Hitler's insults to Russia are one thing. They are sul general. As Sir Austin Chamberlain—who will not be accused of pro-Soviet tendencies—remarked, "It will be difficult to find a parallel for such a gross attack by the rulers of one country upon the government of another." But these remarks were given wide notice here and need not be gone into. What was not so generally noted was that Mr. Hitler did not confine his caustic comments to Russia. He embraced in his disdain all the nations of Europe "with the exception of one great power (Italy) and a few other countries." "Everywhere else," he said, "we see the spasms of Bolshevik revolution."

That "everywhere else" is an insult to every democratic country in Europe, including the "Great Power" of England, which with democratic institutions is enjoying unparalleled prosperity and social unity. Bolshevism looms as an immediate threat only in Spain where German intervention has increased its menace; in France there is social disorder precipitated by the fear of German Fascism and by the persisted-in deflation. But it is still a long cry from Bolshevism.

That many claims which the Nazi government makes for the support of its people and the admiration of the rest of the world display Germany under dictatorship as a modern Eden. Unemployment has been reduced from six million to one million. The dispossession of German peasants has ended, and the agricultural income is higher than in any previous year of peace; trade has increased; the German port towns are lively with ship-building; many factories have doubled, tripled and quadrupled their workers; automobile factories are increasing tremendously; and motor cars will increase from 45,000 in 1932 to 250,000 this year; the deficit of states and cities has been removed; the Reich has an increased tax revenue of five billions; the German Reich has roads unequalled anywhere in the world. These are the high points of the Fuehrer's claims.

What is there in them? 1. The International Labor Office recently reported that German citizens had been removed from the unemployment rolls in the following manner: by absorption in increased business largely due to the immense armament program which is busy manufacturing goods of no use to Germans except to fight with; by spreading work in the factories, whereby more people work but for less average weekly wage; by increasing the army eightfold and introducing universal compulsory two-year military training; by removing women from industry; by work camps which demand compulsory service of all young men for a stated period; by the forced emigration of over 60,000 Jews.

2. The peasants have been saved from foreclosure by completely limiting their ownership rights; no peasant may raise credit on his land, mortgage it, or sell it. Nor may he sell his products to any one except government agencies at fixed prices, and he must deliver fixed quotas. Agriculture enjoys a monopoly of the domestic market at the cost of high food prices and definite shortage to the urban consumer.

3. Trade has been restored to almost the position which it occupied when Mr. Hitler came into power at the bottom of the depression. Today trade is on the increase everywhere in the world. German trade under the Republic surpassed the figures of 1913.

4. Ships are being built and the government is paying heavy deficits for their building. A Merchant Marine has been socialized, and the amount of the deficit is kept secret.

5. Production is enforced, by government order, many factories compelled to undertake reorganization at a loss. Armament orders are making others prosperous.

6. In the democratic country of England which Hitler referred to disdainfully under his blanket indictment, the number of automobiles has increased from 223,000 in 1931 to 348,000 in 1934. Last year Germany had less than half as many autos as England, in spite of the fact that autos in Germany are exempted from taxation because of their widespread ownership is due to a wage or salary of every citizen in the country, and not just of the considerate folks, but also of every crank that comes pestering him by telegram and phone and letter. And yet, it's true, it's absolutely true I do want power, great, big, imperial power—but not for myself, but for you!—the power of your permission to smash the Jew financiers who've enslaved you, who're working you to death to pay the interest on their bonds; the grasping bankers—and not all of 'em Jews by a damn sight!—the crooked labor-leaders just as much as the crooked bosses, and, most of all, the sneaking spies of Moscow that want you to lick the boots of their self-appointed tyrants that rule not by love and loyalty, like I want to, but by the horrible power of the whip, dark cell, the automatic pistol!"

7. The Reich certainly has an increased tax revenue. The income tax begins at a wage or salary of 900 marks (\$225) a year, on which a flat 10 per cent is paid. With compulsory party contributions and the compulsory social insurances, the total taxes are 30 per cent of such an income.

8. The great rotating program which Hitler points to with pride which did not proceed faster than under the great building days of the Republic. Democratic England has rehoused 50 per cent of her entire population since 1918; Holland and Sweden are almost completely rebuilt. All without dictatorship.

Mr. Hitler also made some grandiose claims for the renaissance of German culture. About that it is more difficult to judge. But so far not a single novel or play of international recognition has emerged from Nazi Germany.

But there is one claim that cannot be denied. "There is not a Socialist, a Communist, a Center Party or a bourgeois party member left in Germany." That claim cannot be disputed.

And one item Mr. Hitler failed to mention. He did not claim to have balanced the budget, although he might have done the claim and no one could have contradicted it. No budget has been published since he came into power. What the national debt is, nobody knows. And if anyone did, he would be sent to prison for publishing it. I suppose, under the law of "drugging information damaging to the interests of the nation."

"It Can't Happen Here"

By SINCLAIR LEWIS

Buzz Windrip, raris' counterpart of Huey Long, has captured the democratic presidential nomination on a platform strongly fascist. He has followers in all parts, formed in disgust at Windrip's demagogism, has little chance. The communists put up seven parties. Jessup, in New York for Buzz's firm campaign address, gets his first view of the candidate's private army, the uniformed ranks of the Minute Men, comprising pension-hunters, like Shad Ledue, hired man of Doremus Jessup, central figure of the novel. Jessup, Vermont publisher, is supporting the republican Trowbridge, for he feels Roosevelt's emergency third Minute Men, America's White Strix, dominating Broadway.

Same Old Platform
Windrip started prosaically enough. You felt rather sorry for him, so awkwardly did he lumber up the steps to the platform, across to the center of the stage. He stopped, stared owlishly.

Windrip outlined his too-familiar platform—Doremus was interested only in observing that Windrip misquoted his own figures, regarding the limitation of fortunes, in Point Five.

He slid into a rhapsody of general ideas—a mishmash of polite regards to Justice, Freedom, Equality, Order, Prosperity, Patriotism, and any number of other noble but slippery abstractions.

Doremus thought he was being bored, until he discovered that, at some moment which he had not noticed, he had become absorbed and excited.

Something in the intensity with which Windrip looked at his audience, looked at all of them, his glance slowly taking them in from the highest-perched seat to the nearest, convinced them that he was talking to each individual, directly and solely; that he wanted to take each of them into his heart; that he was telling them the truths, the impetuous and dangerous facts that had been hidden from them.

"They say I want money—power! Say, I've turned down offers from law firms right here in New York of three times the money I'll get as President! And power—why the President is the servant of every citizen in the country, and not just of the considerate folks, but also of every crank that comes pestering him by telegram and phone and letter. And yet, it's true, it's absolutely true I do want power, great, big, imperial power—but not for myself, but for you!—the power of your permission to smash the Jew financiers who've enslaved you, who're working you to death to pay the interest on their bonds; the grasping bankers—and not all of 'em Jews by a damn sight!—the crooked labor-leaders just as much as the crooked bosses, and, most of all, the sneaking spies of Moscow that want you to lick the boots of their self-appointed tyrants that rule not by love and loyalty, like I want to, but by the horrible power of the whip, dark cell, the automatic pistol!"

Paradise on Earth
He pictured, when, a Paradise of democracy in which, with the old political machines destroyed, every humblest worker would be king and ruler, dominating representatives elected from among his own kind of people, and these representative not growing indifferent, as hitherto they had done, once they were far off in Washington, but kept alert to the public interest by the supervision of a strengthened Executive.

It sounded almost reasonable, for a while.

The supreme actor, Buzz Windrip, was passionate yet never grotesquely wild. He did not gesture too extravagantly; only, like Gene Debs of old, he reached out a bony forefinger which seemed to jab into each of them and hook out each heart. It was his mad eyes, big staring tragic eyes, that startled them, now humbly pleading, that soothed them.

He was obviously an honest and body knows. And if anyone did, he would be sent to prison for publishing it. I suppose, under the law of "drugging information damaging to the interests of the nation."

Next morning at the Informer office, Doremus did not learn so very much damage wrought by the triumphant Nordics—they had merely upset a couple of privies, otn down and warked the tailor shop sign of Louis Rotenstern, and somewhat badly beaten Clifford Little, the jeweler, a slight, curly-headed young man whom Shad Ledue despised because he organized theatricals and played the organ in Mr. Falck's church.

That night Doremus found, on his front porch, a notice in red chalk upon butcher's paper: "You will get yez Dorey sweet-eart unless you get rite down on yer belly and crawl in front of the League and the Chief and I."

It was the first time that Doremus had heard of "the Chief," a sound American variant of the Government, "the Head of the Government," as a popular title for Mr. Windrip. It was soon to be made official.

Doremus burned the red warn-

merical leader; a man of sorrows and acquaint with woe. "I'll be changed! Why, he's a darn good sort when you come to meet him! And warm-hearted. He makes me feel as if I'd been having a good evening with Buck and Steve Perefice. What if Buzz is right? What if—in spite of all the demagogic pap that, I suppose, he has got to feed out to the boobies—he's right in claiming that he's only he, and not Trowbridge or Roosevelt, that can break the hold of the absentee owners? And these Minute Men, his followers—oh, they were pretty hasty, what I saw out on the street, but still, most of 'em are mighty nice men, out yonder fellows. Seeing Buzz, and then listening to what he actually says does kind of surprise you—kind of make you think!"

But what Mr. Windrip actually had said, Doremus could not remember. He was so convinced then that Windrip would win that, on Tuesday evening, he did not remain at the Informer office until the returns were all in. But if he did not stay for the evidences of the election, they came to him, only.

Past his house, after midnight, through muddy snow tramped a triumphant and reasonably drunken parade, carrying torches and bellowing to the air of "Yankee Doodle!" new words revealed just before by Mrs. Adelaide Tarr Gimmitch:

"The snakes disloyal to our Buzz We're riding on a rail, They'll wish to God they never was.

When we got them in jail! Chorus: Buzz and buzz and keep it up To victory he's floated, You were a most ungrateful pup, Unless for Buzz you voted, "Every M.M. get a whip To use upon some traitor, And every Antibus we skip, And every we'll get to later."

Warning Note
"Antibus," a word credited to Mrs. Gimmitch but more probably invented by Dr. Hector Macgobin, was being extensively used by lady patriots as a term expressing such vicious disloyalty to the State as might call for the firing squad. Yet, like Mrs. Gimmitch's splendid synthesis "Unkies," for soldiers of the A.E.F., it never really caught on.

And, though he could not be sure of it in the dimness behind the torches, Doremus rather thought that the lone large motor car following the procession was that of his neighbor, Francis Tarrbrough.

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Why, their whole lives had been predicted on the privilege of planning. Depressions had been only cyclic storms, certain to end in sunshine; Capitalism and parliamentary government were eternal, and the permanent permanency was by the honest votes of Good Citizens.

Doremus's grandfather, Calvin, Civil War veteran and ill-paid, ill-liberal Congressional minister, had yet planned "M" son, Doremus, shall have a theological education, and I think we shall be able to build a fine new house in fifteen or twenty years." That had given him a reason for working and a goal.

His father, Loren, had vowed, "Even if I have to economize on books a little, and perhaps give up this extravagance of eating meat four times a week—very bad for the digestion, anyway—my son, Doremus, shall have a college education, and when, as he desires, he becomes a publicist, I think perhaps I shall be able to help him for a year or two. And then I hope—oh, in a mere five or six years more—to buy that complete Dickens with all the illustrations—oh, an extravagance, but a thing to leave to my grandchildren to treasure forever!"

But Doremus Jessup could not plan. "I'll have Sissy go to Smith before she studies architecture," or "If Julian Falck and Sissy get married and stick here in the Fort I'll give 'em the southwest lot and some one, maybe fifteen years from now, the whole place will be filled with nice kids again!" No, fifteen years from now, he sighed, Sissy might be hustling hash for the sort of workers who called the waiter's art "hustling hash," and Julian might be in a concentration camp—Fascist or Communist!

The Horatio Alger tradition, from rags to Rockefeller, was clean gone out of the America it had dominated.

It seemed faintly silly to hope, to try to prophesy, to give up sleep on a good mattress for toil on a typewriter, and as for saving money—fiddlesticks!

(To Be Continued)



Something in the intensity with which Windrip looked at his audience convinced them he was talking to each individual.

Ten Years Ago

September 30, 1926 Captain A. J. Spang, well known riverman owner of "Spong's Landings" passed away last night.

Classes in the new Salem branch of the University of Oregon extension division have started.

Twenty Years Ago

September 26, 1916 Neutrality of Americans is much doubted, firmness is urged in dealing with U. S.

Will Tanner, serving time in manslaughter at state prison disappeared last night.