

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Strays Us; No Fear Shall Awe"

From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

Sheldon F. Sackett Editor and Manager.

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"Liquid Highways" Successful

For reasons known only to himself and his managing editor, W. A. S. Douglas, columnist of the Washington, DC, Times-Herald visited The Dalles—or so he claims—and discovered that the city on the Columbia which we had understood to be thriving, in reality is a "ghost town" in so far as its ambitions to be a port are concerned:

"The long piers stretch on the left bank of the river, topped by glittering zinc-roofed warehouses. . . not even a potato has rolled from a bag onto the brand-new floors. . . The Dalles had a pretty dream—but a sad dream. For common sense points to rotting piers and ruined warehouses, while the sum total of navigation remains in the one-lugged—and tubercular at that—ferry which chugs you over from the Oregon to the Washington side."

The Dalles Chronicle questions whether Douglas really visited The Dalles, but asserts that if he did, he missed the terminal warehouses filled with wheat and other commodities, the two river freighters, the tugs and barges that make The Dalles waterfront a beehive of activity. It points out further that one oil company has opened bids on construction of an oil barge larger than any yet in service, and another inquired how soon small ocean tankers might safely navigate the river.

As to this controversy, we will leave it to the columnist and the people and newspaper of The Dalles—after remarking that whatever the success to date of navigation, it obviously has the other carriers worried, for that was what was behind the recent rate dispute and hearings.

It is pertinent to point out however that "liquid highways" are coming into their own. Within the last ten years this transportation system has been expanded to include 6000 miles of commercial waterways improved at federal expense, in some cases with state aid.

More pertinent still is the fact that industry is utilizing this method of transportation more and more extensively for moving heavy, non-perishable freight. On the upper Mississippi, where the new nine-foot channels are not quite completed, the 1938 volume of freight exceeded that of 1935 by 69 per cent. Deepening of the channels has made it possible to move 2200 tons on one barge where 500 tons was formerly the limit; and new tugs with twin diesel engines have added to freight-handling efficiency. One such tug will haul freight that used to require 500 freight cars.

Economic feasibility of this transportation method is limited to certain types of freight and certain favorable conditions with respect to handling. These limitations would have some effect upon the similar utilization of the Willamette river after its channel is deepened in connection with the Willamette Valley Project. But the economic advantages of river transportation between Salem and Portland have been demonstrated in the past, and would be increased with a year-around channel. Hopes of industrial expansion in Salem hinge greatly upon the use of this waterway. The interest in such development that was evident here a decade ago is about due for a revival—along with other possibilities of progress which have not received in recent years the attention they deserve.

Majorities May Be Mistaken

In a three-room country school some years ago the principal, teaching the three upper grades, asked his sixth graders where the apostrophe should be placed in the possessive of "men." All agreed it should be "men's" except one little fellow who stubbornly declined to change his position in the face of unanimity among the rest. The teachers appealed to the seventh grade, got a solid vote for "men's". The lone sixth grader wouldn't budge. The eighth grade was polled with the same result. The smallest boy in the room still refused to change his mind.

The majority of 30 was wrong and the minority of one was right. The possessive is "men's" but that is as unimportant as the fact that the minority grew up to be an editorial writer. The significant thing is that, much as we prize majority rule in this country, it's entirely possible for a majority, even an overwhelming majority, to be 100 per cent wrong.

Four years ago Huey Long had Louisiana eating out of his hand; he had been governor, he was United States senator, he was regarded as a real threat for the presidency. In his own state he built a few roads and schools to prove to the "common peepul" he was their friend, and with them behind him, taxed the somewhat more prosperous minority scandalously, used the money to feather his own nest, politically and financially.

An assassin's bullet ended Huey's personal career but the structure he had built lived on, even prospered contrary to widespread predictions. Among the triumvirate to whom his empire was bequeathed were Richard Leche, who recently resigned as governor, and Seymour Weiss, hotel man. Today both are under indictment, as the most gigantic official scandal in Louisiana history, possibly the greatest in American history involving a state government, unfolds.

Four years ago there were a good many people outside of Louisiana who would not have been surprised, had a crystal-gazer revealed these impending events; but a great majority in Louisiana believed that Huey Long was the greatest, ablest, left to itself, might never have managed to shake off this earnest honest and public-spirited man in America. Louisiana, ror; federal investigators unearthed the irregularities, some of which had to do with WPA administration.

There would be no particular point in all this, except that Louisiana, though rather a backward state, is by no means the only one in which a huge majority has managed, for some length of time, to be wrong. It has happened even in Oregon. The incident ought to have a chastening influence upon majorities, lend encouragement to minorities, even to lone prophets crying in the wilderness. Sometimes it turns out that they are right.

Workman, Spare That Tower

It wasn't the bell tower immortalized in "Curfew Shall Not Ring Tonight," yet Linn county residents have built up an affection over the years for the old tower on the courthouse in Albany. With its bell and clock. The courthouse is to be torn down following completion of the new, modern structure; sentiment for retaining the old tower has developed but apparently without effect upon the members of the county court.

The Albany Democrat-Herald conducted a poll, received 374 ballots in favor of keeping the tower and 42 for tearing it down. A rural resident near Albany has circulated a petition in favor of eliminating the tower and had 250 names after two days of canvassing.

Well, it is Linn county's problem, but one in which Marion county people may exhibit sympathetic interest. Sentiment for the old is strong here also; extending to the retention of the old courthouse intact, and not merely to the tower and the clock that is not too reliable as a timepiece.

Discord between the Serbs and the Croats in Yugoslavia has become more acute recently and Dr. Matchek, Croat leader, threatens to "call in the Nazis" if his racial group is not given the autonomy it demands. The picture is identical with that which prevailed in Czechoslovakia a year ago, except that the Croats fulfill the role of the Sudeten Germans though they are not Germans. On this side of the Atlantic we have our own opinion of Matchek's sense of values, but we have not the benefit of an understanding of the inter-racial bitterness that causes such a suicidal proposal to make anything like sense in Europe.

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Inquiry concerning the 31039 massacre of a Fresno, Cal., man's grandfather and uncles by Indians Feb. 22, '66:

(Continuing from yesterday:) Quoting further Mrs. Victor's account: "Ten, twenty, thirty days passed during which the silence of death brooded over the country. Port Orford was the only place in Oregon to which the news of the massacre had been carried, and to send it to the governor (Geo. L. Curry) at the capital, or to San Francisco to the military authorities, took time, when steamers made only monthly or bi-monthly trips along the coast."

"The Indians, always well informed of the movements of the volunteers, had seized upon that period when the disbandment of companies, and the slow recruiting of them, rendered the state soldiery practically useless, so that even after the news of the tragedy had filtered through the Indians' lines and reached the volunteer camps, it found them unprepared to act."

"The time wore while the Indians waited for famine and despair to place a hundred victims in their bloody hands."

"On the thirty-first day, ah! what sound breaks the painful silence of this tragic solitude? Fire and drum, and the tramp of many feet! To the straining eyes of the imprisoned inmates of the fort was revealed the ravishing sight of two companies of the United States troops marching up from Fort Humboldt to their relief. Instantly the Indians fled to the hills, and the people rushed out into the free air with shouts of gladness. . . . On the 26th of April, Buchanan sent Lieutenant Ord, with 112 men, to destroy a village of the Mackanotias 11 miles above Whaleshead, and to force them upon the reservation, which was accomplished with some fighting and loss of one soldier. But there was plenty of fighting yet to be done in other quarters, as appeared when Ord with 60 men, on his way to Crescent City to escort a large train with army stores to the mouth of the Rogue river on the 29th, was attacked at Chetco river by about an equal number of Indians looting in the skirmish one man killed and three wounded. . . . Twice had the Coquilles agreed to go and remain on the reservation, and twice ran away before they could be disposed of."

Followed, in Mrs. Victor's book, the operations that, on May 28th, ended in the battle of the Meadows, which finished the 1855 general Indian war for southern and southwestern Oregon.

Then Lieutenant Ord took the last band, that of wily old Chief John and his heavy minded son Adam, from their haunts on the upper Rogue river to Port Orford.

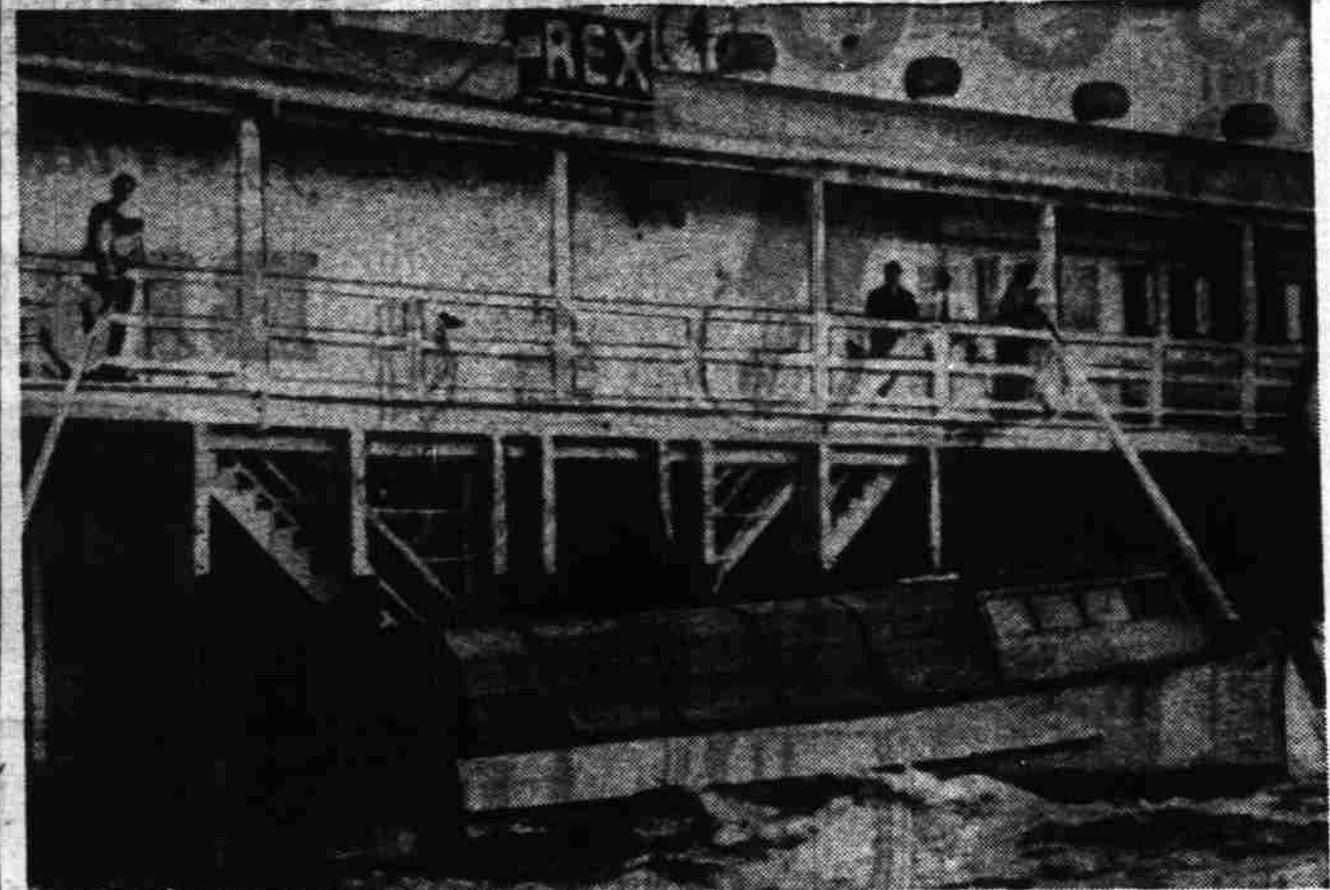
From that point, Capt. and Bvt. Major John F. Reynolds, starting July 10, 1855, brought John and his heavy minded son Adam, from the traces and trails of primeval Oregon, to Fort Yamhill, and turned them over to Capt. D. A. Russell and 2nd Lieut. P. H. Sheridan.

Part of that historic cavalcade were 200 "splendid" army mules, 150 of them used as pack animals. Thus was ended the Oregon part of the general Indian war which opened in 1855, intended to stop the covered wagon immigration and destroy it the whole white race. The Washington part of it ran through the four years, 1855-'58.

"Pioneer History of Coos and Curry Counties, Oregon," published in Salem, Oregon, in 1898, by Orvil Dodge, historian, has many references to the Washington Day massacre. Under the title, "The Geisel Tragedy, February 22, 1856, page 346 of that

"Mrs. Blake enjoyed one of the most elegant homes in the country until Mr. Blake's death a few years since." (Continued tomorrow.)

Gambling Ship on 'High Seas' Resists Law Raiders



Police raiders and operators of the elaborate gambling ship Rex, on the "high seas" off Santa Monica, Calif., were at a stalemate when the above photo was taken. At the ship's rail can be seen men with streaming fire hoses standing by to repel any attempt of police to board. At gangplank is an empty water taxi used as a barricade. Two companion ships nearby surrendered to raiders who unloaded sufficient evidence of illegal gambling into boats, tossed the rest overboard. Said owner of the Rex, Tony Corcoro: "They can't raid a ship on the high seas. We're beyond California state borders."—IIN photo.

Radio Programs

One of the most horrible incidents of the Indian war of 1855-6, near the mouth of the Rogue river, has been mentioned several times in this volume, but without sufficient details. "Mr. Geisel had settled six miles north of Rogue river and was mining. His family consisted of a wife and three boys aged respectively 9, 7 and 5 years, and two girls, Mary aged 13, and an infant. "An Indian who had been working for Mr. Geisel went out, on the 23d day of February, 1856, to hunt hogs and did not return that evening as was expected. At midnight a rap was heard on the door. The summons was answered with caution. The voice of the Indian who was employed was detected. The door was opened and three Indians entered unbidden, and a murderous assault was made on Mr. Geisel by the Indians, who were armed with knives. The brave wife flew to her husband's assistance and was wounded, nearly losing one finger. "The husband and father soon fell and the mother and daughters were taken out and tied, when the Indians returned to their slaughter. The three boys were killed and the house set on fire. The mother and daughters were driven away captives by the light of the flames of the ruin behind. Through the medium of a squaw, who was a prisoner, an exchange was made. "Charley Brown was sent out to meet the Indians with a flag of truce. For the squaw and some blankets they would exchange" was their answer. A subscription was raised, blankets purchased, and the exchange completed. The next day Mrs. Geisel was brought to the fort, but the girl Mary was kept until another night of suspense and horror for the mother had passed when she was brought to the fort near dead than alive. "Mary afterwards became the wife of Harry Blake, of Chetco valley, who represented his county in the Oregon legislature at one time. "Mrs. Blake enjoyed one of the most elegant homes in the country until Mr. Blake's death a few years since." (Continued tomorrow.)

The Safety Valve

Letters From Statesman Readers
MRA ALREADY SUCCESS
To the Editor: After reading your editorial on Moral Re-Armament over carefully and thoughtfully, I feel I need to do a bit of explaining. I was sent to the Pasadena training center for MRA to learn what team work really meant as we had a fellowship of a small group here in Salem. I came into contact with a group of delegates numbering between one thousand and twelve hundred. They were from all parts of the world and represented every phase of life from relief clients and WPA workers to members of parliament and earls and ladies. There were factory workers and farmers, Doctors and teachers; students and preachers. National leaders down to a message from a Bantu tribe in Africa. Yet, the funny part was they all worked together in perfect harmony without thought of position, racial antagonism or political differences coloring their thinking as they mapped out programs to bring this wonderful message to the entire world. I admit it sounds Utopian, but that is exactly what it is. It is not a theory but a proven fact as the Scandinavians demonstrated at the second World Assembly for Moral Re-Armament held at Del Monte. They showed us how MRA had driven out conflict from their own individual lives. From that as a base it had moved on into family relationships in the home, been taken into industry then on into the national life. It was not a loose set of emotions released but clean-cut decisions from thinking men and women under the direction of God, free to remake the world. I would like also for you to correct a misleading statement in Sunday morning's Statesman. It was that I was the only delegate from Oregon at the training center. I was at Pasadena but others came down for the Hollywood Bowl rally. Several came from Portland and Eugene and one from Grants Pass besides Virgil Thomas who I understood was at Walla Walla but formerly of Salem. OLIVE CARTER.

1938-39 PWA Program Well Along in State

PORTLAND, Aug. 9.—(P)—The regional PWA office today reported that 70 of the 134 projects granted Oregon in 1938-39 have been completed. A total expenditure of \$9,200,000 was involved in the entire state program, but 17 projects valued at \$1,085,054 were transferred to the bureau of public roads. There are only 47 projects still under construction.

Man Is Held Blameless For Death From Fight

PORTLAND, Aug. 9.—(P)—Kermit Earl Barkhurst, 27, was exonerated by a coroner's jury today of any blame in the death of Steven Lichter, 45. Lichter died Sunday of injuries suffered in a fight with Barkhurst. The jury said it found Barkhurst had no intent to kill.

Sport Events Set For Union Picnic

August 20 Outing to See Men's Beauty Contest, Other Big Events

A men's bathing beauty contest, log-rolling, basketball, tug-of-war, races and a hall game are being planned for the union labor picnic scheduled for August 20 at Pat's Acres at Canby. The picnic is one of the events of labor weekend staged by organized labor under the auspices of the Salem Union Labor League. The labor parade will be staged in downtown Salem Friday night, August 18, and similar demonstrations are being arranged in surrounding communities. Joe Hassastab's Cherry City Master Bread juvenile band of over 60 pieces will play at the Salem parade. All the musicians are 15 years old or under. At the picnic both dinner and supper will be available, although visitors may bring basket lunches if they prefer. A first aid station, under the direction of Willard Marshall, manager of the physicians and surgeons hospital association of Salem, will be maintained at the picnic.

New Courthouse 'Readiness' Urged

Marion county was urged yesterday by C. C. Hockley, regional PWA administrator, to be "ready" with arrangements to finance construction of a new courthouse.

Conferring with the county court, the federal official pointed out the public works administration had been retained by congress as a permanent government agency but had been given no new appropriation.

Court members indicated a belief it would not be advisable to present a new courthouse financing plan to the voters in the near future because of rejection of such a measure last year. Instead, they pressed to a limited extent, however, in a suggestion by Hockley that money be budgeted each year to build up a construction fund.

Miller Company Goes to Eugene

The Miller Mercantile company has purchased the Bank of Commerce building at Eugene and will open its 10th department store there late in the fall. Floyd E. Miller of Salem, assistant manager, announced yesterday. The building is located one-half block from the Washburne department store which was bought early this month by the J. C. Penney company.

Chinook Salmon Thronging River

ASTORIA, Ore., Aug. 9.—(P)—A heavy run of chinook salmon has started in the Columbia River, it was reported today by boats returning with 1000-pound catches. Seven to eight pounds was the average weight of silversides taken on troll.

Thirty thousand cases packed at Bristol Bay, Alaska, arrived tonight on the Columbia River Packers' association floating cannery, Monmon. The amount was 20,000 cases less than last year.

Disaster Control Project Favored

The state board of control Wednesday agreed to sponsor a \$137,000 WPA disaster project. Governor Charles A. Sprague said he would ask State Forester J. W. Ferguson whether the state needed WPA assistance in fighting forest fires.

12-Year-Old Girl's Body Found in Seattle Water

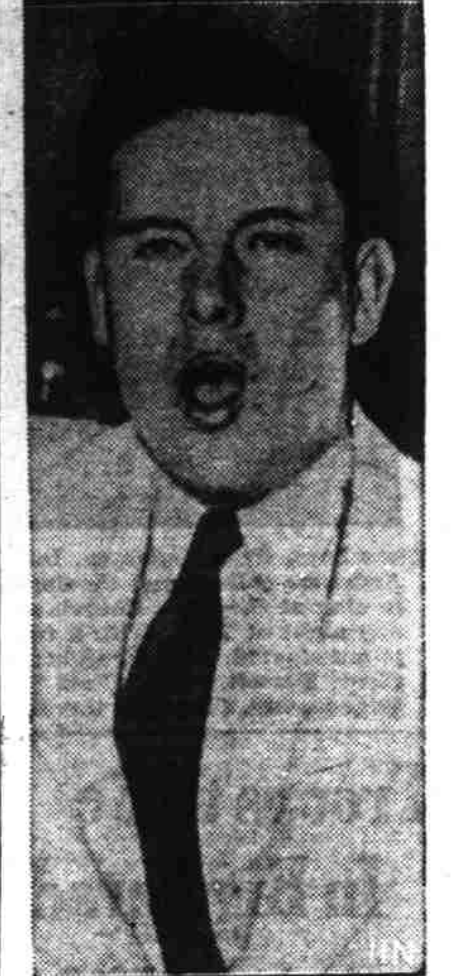
SEATTLE, Aug. 9.—(P)—The body of 12-year-old Alice Sellick, who disappeared from home last Monday, was found in Lake Union today. Authorities, who at first investigated the possibility of foul play, said they believed she fell into the water and drowned.

Alice was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Sellick, recent arrivals from San Francisco.

27 Ships Fly North

SEATTLE, Aug. 9.—(P)—Twenty-seven United States navy bombers arrived at the Sand Point naval air station today after a training flight from San Diego. The planes which stopped at San Francisco en route here, were posted to return south Saturday.

Blow to FDR



Among the Democratic house members who dealt President Roosevelt a blow by voting against the president's \$800,000,000 slum-clearance bill was Representative Albert Gore, of Tennessee, pictured making a speech on the floor of the house against the administration's bill. The bill lost by a vote of 197 to 170.

Doyle Ex-Special Officer of State

Stanley M. Doyle, whom the Harry Bridges defense committee said was the "mainspring" of a conspiracy to deport Bridges, was appointed a state special agent by ex-Governor Charles H. Martin on June 16, 1937, records of the executive department revealed Wednesday.

The appointment was made on recommendation of Chief of Police Harry Niles of Portland. The commission expired December 31, 1938, and was not renewed by Governor Charles A. Sprague. Governor Sprague wrote Doyle to return his badge but he has not replied.

The badge was mailed to Doyle in San Francisco.

36 Prison Cases Reviewed, Board

Thirty-six penitentiary cases came before the state parole board at its meeting Wednesday. In most of the cases the convicts had served their minimum sentences and were subject to parole. The board, at its next meeting, will fix the minimum sentences of a number of prisoners received at the penitentiary since June 14, the date on which the new state parole law became effective. Maximum sentences are fixed by the judges.

Gasoline NRA Protested

PORTLAND, Aug. 9.—(P)—A proposed ordinance to establish an NRA among Portland gasoline dealers and require them to post retail prices has brought a wave of protests from dealers. Commissioner R. E. Riley disclosed today.

TIME CHANGES

Due to the broadcasts of the opening ceremonies of the American Legion convention at 10:00 A. M. today, we have re-arranged our schedule as follows:

Busick's News—11 A. M.
Cohn Bros. Magazine—11:15 A. M.
Kay's Dress Shop, "Women in the News"—11:30
Martin Gassner's "Hollywood Kibitzer"—11:35

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KSLM

Wife's "Pal," Coogan Linked



Pretty Peggy Carroll, young film actress, had her name linked romantically in Hollywood recently with Jackie ("The Kid") Coogan, recently estranged from his shapely blonde wife, Betty Grable. Miss Carroll, who has described Betty as "my best friend," admitted having been out with Coogan many times. Coogan said he and the starlet had known each other for a long time, but, despite denials of a romance, mutual friends smiled knowingly.—IIN photo.

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