

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Ave" From First Statesman, March 23, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO. Charles A. Sprague, President

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Handcuffing the Peddlers

It needs hardly be reiterated that The Statesman believes the people of Salem and vicinity ought to patronize Salem stores, the established, responsible merchants of the community.

On the other hand, when it comes to drafting and enacting legislation which will force, rather than persuade, the residents of a community to do their buying in this wise and prudent fashion, even if it can be done legally and without injustice, extreme caution is necessary; and there is no better proof of this than is contained in the peddlers' ordinance passed hurriedly this week by the city council and now awaiting disposition by the mayor.

However it should be observed that uninvited solicitation is prohibited not only in homes but in places of business. On the face of the ordinance a traveling salesman representing a wholesale house would break the law the moment he entered a retail store to solicit an order.

Actually none of these regular salesmen would be effectively handcuffed; their work would merely be made unreasonably awkward. If they were welcome in any given business establishment, they could take the advance precaution of obtaining a written or preferably, a printed invitation.

But by the same token, the itinerant peddlers and solicitors would likewise be able to get themselves invited into homes and thus circumvent the serious purpose of the ordinance bill.

On the other hand there are many worthy citizens who have managed to stay off the relief rolls by developing home manufacturing businesses and selling their products from door to door.

The truth is that any attempt to handcuff business enterprise is likely to prove not only unfair but futile. Government, national or local, has only two legitimate concerns in connection with business; taxation and protection of the public.

Problem of the Pacific

Periodically the chaos on the editor's desk tumbles into some semblance of order, like the dancing shapes of a kaleidoscope. Yesterday, for no reason at all, the following articles appeared from nowhere at about the same time: 1. An editorial in a southern Oregon paper frankly anticipating war with Japan as an immediate or eventual outcome of American denunciation of the 1911 trade treaty; 2. A news report in which the Japanese ambassador expresses his opinion that it would be much better for both America and Japan to renew commercial relations instead of indulging in nose-thumbing across the Pacific; and 3. a column by Thomas F. Woodlock in the west coast edition of the Wall Street Journal in which he reviews the hypothesis of a French writer that the European struggle will inevitably turn into a conflict between orient and occident rather than a war for balance of power or western ideologies.

There is nothing particularly remarkable about these articles except their sudden contiguity; yet in a way they raise into higher relief the problem of the significance of American-Japanese relations in their setting in world history. As an immediate problem, of course, the matter of the commercial treaty with Japan is the most pressing. American sentiment is still strongly in favor of denying the little brown men the favor of American scrap-iron dumps, and is still willing to accept shipping stagnation and higher-priced (but better) crab meat in consequence.

Certainly the most interesting problem to toy with, and perhaps in the long run the most significant, is whether present events are merely one stage in a long period of historical evolution looking toward a world-wide struggle for predominance (not actual domination) between the ancient forms of oriental despotism and intolerance, and hard-wrung occidental principals of constitutionalism and individualism. The theory implies a Franco-Russian vs. German conflict, with the Italians harrrying the Russians through the Balkans, and a full-blown Japanese war while the Russians roost on the sidelines so far as actual fighting is concerned and take action only when they march in to pick up the pieces and proclaim an unmitigated despotism in all of Europe and as much of America as they can chip off from both Japanese and Americans. Great future for all concerned.

That nothing like this will ever happen is at least a 40-60 bet, perhaps more. But no one can deny that the deepest currents of history are those which are least apparent, and that as yet the Pacific problem has been given few whirrs in the present concentration on Europe. It is worth while occasionally to take a look around the full azimuth, and to attempt to assay what may be new ships in a strange quarter.

Where Magna Carta Is Safe

The copy of Magna Carta which has been on exhibit in the British pavilion at the New York world's fair, said to be the best of the four early copies still in existence, will be deposited "for temporary safe-keeping" in the Library of Congress.

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENRICKS

History and destiny of Salem linked with the story of missions, with most strange starts: Had Samuel John Mills become a farmer on the land willed to him by his grandmother, which he had done, the story would not have responded to the Macedonian call of the Indians beyond the Rockies—and Oregon's capital might have been Boia, or Buena Vista, or Oregon City, Portland, Eugene, Corvallis, or one of a dozen other candidates.

In 1806, 133 years ago, Samuel John Mills and three other students of Williams College, Massachusetts, came to Salem, Mass., at the house of a haystack; thus resulted the famous haystack prayer meeting.

In 1810, 129 years ago, Samuel Mills, Gordon Hall, Adoniram Johnson, Samuel Newell and Samuel North, at the house of Prof. M. Stuart, organized what became the American Board of Foreign Missions, made up then from the Congregational, Presbyterian and Dutch Reformed churches.

That haystack prayer meeting opened a new era in the history of civilization, marked the change in the upward trend in the worldwide ideals of universal brotherhood. Those ideals have suffered many jolts, but their threads have widened from that rainy day. They date back to the Sermon on the Mount and other expressions of the Golden Rule, positive and negative. The haystack prayer meeting represents the beginning of the time when there was a moral rearmament movement devoted to doing something about it.

Samuel John Mills was born April 21, 1783, at Torrington, Mass., his father a Congregational minister. His youthful ambition was to become a farmer. He experienced deep feelings on the occasion of the revival of 1798, and for two years was sure he would go to hell.

That year, he sold the farm bequeathed to him by his grandmother, and entered Morris Academy, Litchfield. In 1806 he went to Williams College as a student, and the first year was a leader in a religious revival there.

He became imbued with the idea that he must go abroad and preach the gospel to the heathen; "the first time that such an enterprise had been considered in the United States," says his biographer.

"He proposed to several of his friends that they should become foreign missionaries and secure their favorable response," wrote his biographer further.

Mills graduated from Williams College in 1809, and spent a few months at Yale, in the hope of enlisting supporters of his mission projects there. His stay at New Haven, however, was fruitless, save for the discovery of Henry Obookiah, a native of the Sandwich Islands, who had lately found his way to New Haven.

In 1810, Mills went to Andover Theological Seminary, taking Obookiah with him. Obookiah was converted soon after, and his conversion resulted in the foundation a few years later of the Missionary School at Cornwall, Massachusetts.

In the seminary, Mills talked about missions incessantly. During 1810, he and three of his friends presented a paper to the General Assembly of Massachusetts, in which they declared their desire to go as missionaries to the heathen, and asked for counsel. As a result, the American board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions was formed, which in 1812 sent 12 missionaries to Calcutta, and by 1820 had 81 missionaries under its charge.

On his graduation from Andover in 1812, Mills was licensed to preach and sent by the Connecticut and Massachusetts Home Missionary Society on a tour of the country beyond the Alleghenies, from Cincinnati to New Orleans, in company with John F. Schermerhorn, in 1814-15, and made a second and more extensive journey with Daniel Smith; preached, distributed Bibles and tracts and formed Bible societies; made sacrifices, suffered hardships; with Schermerhorn, published a book of their experiences and findings; organized the American Bible Society of the United States; started the movement that resulted in a school for educating Negro preachers; worked among the poor in New York City; planned work in South America; hoped to go with Obookiah to the Sandwich Islands.

In 1817, Mills offered his services, with W. Ebenezer Burgess, to go to Africa and find a place for homeless Negroes. The result was the colony of Liberia, Africa.

May 22, 1818, Mills died of fever on his return voyage, and was buried at sea.

(Continued tomorrow.)

Two More Allies Advance



"Knight Errant"

By JACK McDONALD

Chapter 30 Knight Errant endured with remarkable equine stolidism a trying ordeal as the veterinarian probed with his long forceps, finally locating and withdrawing the sponge Charlie Bassett had confessed to secreting in the horse's nostrils months before. Two nights after the operation, Knight Errant came down with a fever.

There was an anxious night, while Heather, Slim and Snapper stood by the horse, awaiting the veterinarian's verdict. "Infection!" was his diagnosis. "Get him to a high, dry climate at once if you want to save him!"

Recalling an old friend, Pop Logan, who had a small ranch in Arizona, Slim arranged to take the ailing Knight Errant there in a borrowed van. The colt recuperated rapidly and was soon exercising daily on the ranch's quarter-mile track, with the hefty but able Snapper in the saddle.

"He proposed to several of his friends that they should become foreign missionaries and secure their favorable response," wrote his biographer further.

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Edith and Heather had spoken so solicitously of each other's horse, Slim Maynard had been down in the saddling paddock selling Knight Errant's rider, "Davey" Jones, in effect, to "knock Comanche for a loop."

"Either that big horse has Knight Errant's number or he hasn't," he told Jones. "This race will tell the tale. Open up all the daylight you can on Comanche in the early running."

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Edith maintained her famous Ashleigh pose, outwardly. She might not have had she seen what was happening on the track. For Comanche, unseen by his mistress, was the victim of another fit of maniacal fury on Knight Errant's part.

As soon as the two horses were unsaddled in front of the judges' stand, Knight Errant broke loose from his groom and kicked Comanche with both rear feet.

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News Behind Today's News

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—Dissident committees have evidence international communism—including that of the United States—is about to go underground again, in its fifth new period reflecting five changes of world revolutionary policy since the red conquest of Russia.

Membership of the communist party is to be pared down to perhaps 35,000 (they have been a little careless about membership in recent years.) What will be called "a militant fighting force" will be created to work inside again by tricky and infiltration to promote the revolution through creating discord in all available organizations.

Less compromising stand toward "imperialism" (how the communies can use that word after what Stalin did in Poland will be a mystery to anyone but a communist) and toward "capitalism" is already being adopted. "PC" units are being abandoned. Financial support will be withdrawn from such deluded liberal outfits as the American League for Peace and Democracy (committee evidence shows the communist party contributed about 15 per cent of the league's budget).

The change appears to be partly a result of exposures, partly because Stalin's course is publicly indefensible in every nation except Russia.

In this new "underground discord" period, the militant underground may even turn against the new deal. You will shortly hear them denouncing it as a "fake liberal outfit." This new deal change did not lack invitation. You will recall how FDR recently went out of his Hyde Park way to question legality of Earl Browder's Boston remark about the US being ready for "a quick transition" to socialism. Browder has used stronger language than this on previous occasions without rebuke.

Various distinct stages of communism which led up to this currently evolving one:

1. Direct revolutionary period, 1917-21, when open armed revolt in Russia was followed by similar unsuccessful efforts in Germany, Hungary and elsewhere.

2. NEP (new economic policy) period, 1921-23, which compromised extensively with capitalism even in Russia where pay was given to workers, etc.

3. Civil strife period, 1923-35, which civil war and strife were promoted directly by political action in various countries, a mistake which brought the rise of fascism.

4. Popular front period, 1935-39, when the seventh world congress advocated coalition with which the French and Spanish cooperation and in Browder, communist candidate for president, endorsing Mr. Roosevelt's reelection.

There may be nothing radically wrong inside the navy, but navy publicity tactics are encouraging the impression that there must be.

Topheavy destroyers and stern posts on battleships might occasionally occur in the best regulated families, but not even the German gestapo has been more secretive about all its affairs than the US navy. Acting Secretary Edison, for instance, has no regular press conferences. Newsmen are not permitted to talk with any naval official without going through the publicity section, and the publicity section refuses to make appointments except on routine happenings.

Newsmen assigned as public observers at the navy department became aroused recently, signed a round robin asking Edison to hold press conferences twice a week. Finally, naval publicity announced Edison would hold one every two weeks because he was too busy to hold them oftener. (President Roosevelt welcomes press conferences twice a week, State Secretary Hull holds one every day, Army officials are always open to consultation although neither Secretary Woodring nor Assistant Secretary Johnson holds regular meetings.)

This bi-weekly solution only added amusing confusion to naval recalcitrance. Mr. Edison's first press conference was postponed because he was absent. When it was held a week later, a lieutenant commander in the press section requested newsmen to limit the conference to ten minutes because Mr. Edison was busy. The aide to the secretary notified reporters as they entered the room that chairs would not be provided since the conference was to be short. It was—and unproductive.

Net result of all this is the naval department occupies a place apart from other government activities, a secretive cloud from which no information emanates, not even information beneficial to navy purposes.

Publicity advisers there are not to blame. Their efforts have been mined by the admirals, who apparently are working on the not wholly illogical assumption that as long as their budget maker in the White House is their friend, they do not need to worry about anyone else.

Worker Survives Terrific Shock

TILLAMOOK, Nov. 24.—(AP)—John Harris, 25, of Tillamook, stood an electrical shock of 11,000 volts when he escaped with hand and foot burns.

A physician said Harris' "remarkable" physique saved him. He was working for a Portland junk company dismantling the old Garibaldi sawmill at the time he touched the power line.

Radio Programs

- NEWS—SATURDAY—1939 Ks. 6:30—Milkmaid Melodies. 7:30—Milkmaid Melodies. 7:45—Monarchs of Rhythm. 8:00—Model Airplane Club. 8:15—Ladies of the World. 8:30—US Army Band. 8:45—News. 9:00—Theater's Call. 9:15—Bob Miller's Orchestra. 9:30—Morton Gould's Orchestra. 10:00—Western Radio. 10:15—News. 10:30—Morning Magazine. 10:45—Popular Variety. 11:15—Ensemble Modern. 11:45—The News. 12:00—Yule Fables. 12:15—News. 12:30—Hillbilly Serenade. 12:45—Willamette Valley Opinions. 1:00—Popular Ballad. 1:15—California vs. Stanford Football. 4:30—News. 4:45—Dinner Hour Melodies. 5:00—Gleaners Bear. 5:15—Tonight's Headlines. 5:30—News and Views. 5:45—Betty Rhodes and Choir. 6:00—Premier of "Geranium." 7:00—Music by Moonlight. 8:15—Songs of the Pioneers. 8:30—Skinsy Ears' Orchestra. 8:45—Newspaper of the Air. 9:00—Sports. 9:15—Old Time Orchestra. 10:00—Musical Hall. 10:15—Harry James' Orchestra. 11:00—Tomorrow's News Tonight. 11:15—Ed Fitzgerald's Orchestra. 11:30—Midnight Melodies. KEX—SATURDAY—1180 Ks. 6:30—Musical Clock. 7:00—News. 7:30—Charlotette. 7:45—The Child. 8:00—Norman Cleeves Orchestra. 8:15—Dr. Brock. 8:30—Patty Jean Health Club. 8:45—National Farm and Home. 9:00—Oregonian News. 9:15—Saver's Ballroom Orchestra. 9:30—Hotei Syracuse Orchestra. 9:45—Associated News. 10:00—Review of the Moppled. 10:15—Message of the Night. 10:30—Portland at Night. 10:45—Hacienda Echoes. 11:00—Musical Serenade. 11:15—On With the Dance. 11:30—Beyond Reasonable Doubt. 11:45—The Clones of Tomorrow. 12:00—NBC Symphony Orchestra. 12:15—Oregonian News. 12:30—Hotel McAlpin Orchestra. 12:45—Hotel Pennsylvania Orch. 1:00—Hotel El Francisco Orchestra. 1:15—The Quiet Hour. 1:30—Paul Carter's Organist. KOW—SATURDAY—690 Ks. 6:30—Musical Serenade. 7:00—Oregonian News. 7:15—Oregonian Trail Blazers. 7:30—Del Brissett Orch. 7:45—The Earl. 8:00—Glean Harvest. 8:15—Dorothy Lee. 8:30—Oregonian News Signal. 8:45—Eastern School of Music. 9:00—Call to Youth. 9:15—Ladies of the World. 9:30—Hotel Netherlands Plaza Orch. 9:45—Calling All Stamp Collectors. 10:00—Stars of Tomorrow. 10:15—Musical Clock. 10:30—Oregonian News. 10:45—Madewood Country Club Co.