## che (1) reson eas tatesman

O Favor swayt Us, No Fear Shan A
From First Stuteman, March 28, 1851
THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO. charles a. sprague, President

$\qquad$ now awaiting action by the city council, which
If approved will authorize the operation and
icensing of such devices. The definition prensing of such drinces.
presumed to apply principly int exclusively,
to those ga dgets popularly and generally know to those gis igets popularly and generally
as pinball -nachines.
In their effort to draft an ordinance which
will appease those persons constitutionally op posed to gambling, it would appear that the
it wonsors of this bill have leaned over backward
spd incorporated something which may cause and incorporated something which may cause
them some future headaches. It is specified
that any game in which the element of chance that any game in which the element of chance
predominates over the element of skill shall
not constitute an "amusement device" under this If there is to be no gambling-positively-
Inhat difference does it make whether the game
Involves predominantly skill or chance? Anyone casually familiar with the general nature
of such pinball games as have been operated
here in the past and are now in operation else peere in the county, is to be pardoned for sus-
pecting that none of them would qualify as an
"amusement device" under this definition.
"Skill" is limited, in all such machines we
have ever- er inspected, to the application of
ajdicious amount of pressure on the plunger;
andicious amount of pressure on the plunger
In other words. to the act of drawing it back a
certan distance, compressin ga spring to the
desired tension, and releasing it sharply so that
all of the'stored-up pressure is applied to the
little pellet the pellet is "on its own" and is subject to the
whims of various pre-arranged forces operating
under the glass ocver. Of course if one were to
jar or tit the machine.. but surely in a game
played for "amusement"only" no one would be
tempted to do that! Below the definition, the ordinance deals
almost exclusively with the matter of licensing.
There is a license of $\$ 100$. There is a license of $\$ 100$ a year for each "dis
tributor" of such devices operating within Sa-
lem's corporate limits and a license of $\$ 5$ month or $\$ 15$ a quarter for each single machine
In passing, it is interesting to ponder the sig
nificance of this provision. Why are there tw nificance of this provision. Why are there two
separate elicenses, one for distributors and the
other for individual devices. Why not just one hicense? And-probably it should be mentioned
right here why is the police committee of the
council given sole authority to reject any appli-
cation for a license? Three guesses, but ought to be enough.
Further inspection of the ordinance will
disclose that it provides na penalties-except
for fialure to obtain a license. It has been ex-
plained that state law provides penalties for the Cor failure to obtain a license. It has been ex-
plained that state law provides penalties for the
use of these machines for gambling. City police
however would have to provide such enforceWhat inducement, we wonder, would there be
Tor the police to diseover violations, when such
discovery would deprive the city of this license discovery would deprive the eity of this license
revenue the council sems too anxious on obtain?
And finally-if these "amusement devices" are to be totally innocent of all gambling
temptation, if they are just nice wholesome
games with which to while away an odd mo
ment, what is the justification ment, what is the justification for the license
fees proposed? By contrast, the license fee for for each additional table; the license fee for
billiard orp pool table is $\$ 15$ a year. As for "juke
boxes" "gadgets into boxes," gadgets into which nickels and dimes
are poured as profusely as into pinball ma--
chines, and which comprise nationally a billion dollar business, no license of any sort is re-
quired. How come? Isn't it a fact that a pinball
machine is a social nuisance that its being such
is the justification for the high license.proposal
and that the inordinate profits explain the operopinion, the existing prohibition on pinball ma作

## Re-Parceling America <br> 

## Christmas Buying Prospects



What about gift merchandise? The people
who check up on such matters assure us that
regardless of priorities and threatened shortages regardless of priorities and threatened shortages
of metal gadgets ranging from razor blades to
automobiles, there' will be plenty of gift merautomobiles, there will be plenty of gift mer$x=2$ pecially little people, who can be made happy ishes"-than in many a Christmas past.
mericans, privileged to enjoy at least one Americans, privileged to enjoy at least one
pore Christmas in comparative comfort and
security, are nevertheless so deeply immersed
in the world's wes the they th season produces. Things and persons function best in thei
wn respective natural elements. The visiting airmen last Saturday put on a good show in the
air-and it wouldn't be reasonable to criticize
them for a poor job of traffic control on the
ground. Besides, it might have been the fault

## News Behind The News








 and

## The Safety Valve





## Bits for Breakfast

| The Oregon walnut as $10-28-41$ compared to California's product; The Oregonian is |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |
|  | only 60 per cent of | the |
| taken unawares; the real truth: | as well-while Oregon |  |
| The Portland Oregonian had in |  |  |
| its isue of Tuesday, the 14th, aneditorial article attention to | by this standard. Besid | same varieties produced in |
|  | O |  |
| which has been |  |  |
| ${ }^{\text {two weeks }}$ by matter previo |  | me |
| in hand. The editorial, under | command |  |
|  | in the nationa |  |
| Oregon Walnut," read: <br> "This newspaper feels a spell |  |  |
| of righteous indignation coming on-but we hope to avoid using | our walnuts, |  |
|  | Wheeler's reaction would indi- cate. We are so sensitive that |  |
|  |  | by LIllie L Madsen |
| ery passing second we are becoming more and more indig- | buyers invaded the Cali |  |
|  | groves and bought walnuts |  |
| nant. Now we almost are as in- dignant as E . N . Wheeler was |  |  |
| when he wrote us a well de- |  |  |
| served letter of protest about.a sugar cookie formula lately appearing in The Oregonian orf a |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| home magazinè page. The recipe counsels Oregon housewives to |  | n |
|  | where there are gray tru |  |
|  |  |  |

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BARRED
By MARYSE RUTLEEDGE CHAPTER 34
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| Richard |
| imp | so immaculatte, showed, sigually

deep strain.
counderstand how
you feel," he said


## Radio Programs



