

Writer Gives Slant on Dirty Oregon Politics 50 Years Ago

By CAREY F. MARTIN

After graduating from the University of Oregon in 1893, the writer followed newspaper work on the Seattle Evening Press-Times for six months, and thereafter on the San Francisco Examiner until recalled to Eugene, Ore., early in the year 1894 to aid Hon. Harrison R. Kincaid in his campaign for secretary of state. Thus began four years of work for the state of Oregon when politics were at their lowest moral standard in Oregon.

We joined with the Judge Lord faction or slate in the republican convention in Portland in March, 1894. The opposing slate was the Astoria Fulton faction. Lord was chief justice of the Oregon supreme court and Fulton was a well-known lawyer of good reputation. The convention was about evenly divided as to which slate should be adopted.

The plan was to have some very well-known party man place the name of each candidate before the convention. Someone thus placed the name of Mr. Fulton before the convention and Andy Gilbert of Salem named Judge Lord. Congressman Tongue then made the first brilliant speech of the session, seconding the Fulton nomination. He pleaded with the convention to nominate a young man, "willing to bare his breasts to the shafts of the enemy, and fight the battles of his party."

Sitting near the speaker's rostrum we had Henry E. McGinn, Oregon's greatest extemporaneous speaker to close the speeches. He said: "Gentlemen, we do not have to search far for a man who will promise to bare his breasts to the shafts of the enemy and fight the battles of our party. We have with us here one who has already bared his breasts to the shafts of the enemy in the great Civil war; I refer to Maj. William P. Lord, our candidate."

The cheering was so great that it was several minutes before he could go on with his speech. Mr. McGinn made on that occasion one of the most beautiful and compelling speeches ever heard in Oregon and within ten minutes had simply carried the convention off its feet. Every candidate on the Maj. Lord slate or list was nominated and elected without regard to the candidate's fitness for office.

Well, after election and we had come to Salem in the fall of that year things began to go on of which we had never dreamed. A United States senator TO BE ELECTED BY THE LEGISLATURE. Someone had fixed the price to be paid for a vote of a member as "Thirty new one-hundred dollar bills in a large envelope." They were old-style large bills and made a rather large, fat envelope. Everybody around the state house soon learned how to distinguish these envelopes. They would be left with some innocent person to pass on to the member of the legislature whose vote was desired.

One member found such an envelope with his evening mail and carried it to his boarding house to open. There he opened it in the presence of more than a dozen persons seated around the old-fashioned long dining table and carefully counted the \$100 bills while everybody stopped eating and held their breath. Most of the diners lost track of the count, some claiming that there were at least 50 or more bills in the envelope. The boarding house was on the present site of the ME church parsonage on State street.

And in another case one of these large envelopes was entrusted to a janitor employed by the legislature. He could not resist the temptation to take the money, and slipped away to Albany on the next train. He was arrested and returned to Salem, and taken before the city police recorder. He had employed a very smart attorney who represented to the police judge that the man had committed no crime and should be released on a nominal bond. The recorder agreed and the janitor was instructed to take from his big envelope in his pocket five of the large bills and leave them with the recorder as ball. The case, of course, was never tried and the \$500 was withdrawn either by the janitor or his attorney. Money deposited as ball becomes the property of the accused and was so withdrawn in this case. It has always been a question as to what became of the remaining \$2500 in the envelope.

At the end of the 1895 session a United States senator was elected but not the one for whom so

much money had been used in Salem.

The session of the legislature for the year 1897 never was able to agree upon an organization and never did any business whatever. The members of that session mostly adjourned to a building in downtown Salem where they hired a cook and maintained living quarters for 40 days. This writer does not know who furnished the money for the hold-up of the entire legislature in the year 1897. In the year 1898 and as soon as possible the writer of these lines entered a private law practice and forever eschewed politics.

Blue Ribbon Baby Contest Draws Many

Enthusiastic parents are having their babies photographed for entry in the Blue Ribbon Baby Contest, in which children between the ages of three months and eight years compete for awards totaling more than \$500 in war bonds and stamps, according to a statement made today by Bette Lundy, manager of Bishop's Studios in Salem, sponsors of the contest.

"Prizes aggregating \$500 in war bonds will go to the three top winners, as well as two prizes of \$25 each in war bonds, plus five prizes of \$10 each in war stamps, to be awarded the lucky seven who place next," said Mrs. Lundy.

In addition to these state-wide awards, it is further stated that weekly prizes of a \$25 life-size, hand painted oil portrait will be awarded by each Bishop studio in the city in which it is located. It is emphasized that no obligation to purchase the pictures made for entry in the contest is required of any entrant.

Striving for simplicity of rules, the studio states that all that is required for the parents to enter their children is to take them in to be photographed at the Bishop studio between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., except Sunday. Local judges will be prominent citizens of this community not connected in any way with Bishop studios.

New Welfare Set-up Looms

PORTLAND, May 27-(P)—The state public welfare commission voted yesterday to join two other state agencies in establishing a council to supervise employment of workers on a merit basis.

The council would be operated with \$5000 in federal funds advanced by the federal social security board until state money is available. Agencies affected would be the welfare commission, the state board of health and the state unemployment compensation commission.

Oregonians receiving welfare assistance last month totaled 25,327, with payments of \$857,064.68. The commission approved June grants of \$665,585 for aged persons; \$15,495 for the blind; \$87,836 for dependent children; and \$168,628 for general assistance.

Kleinschmidts Visit With Seattle Friends

UNIONVALE — Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kleinschmidt are guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Arnold at Seattle, according to a letter received here Thursday. The women are sisters. They resided near Reading, Pa., for a year, after selling their farm here and are undecided where they will locate.

For more than 28 years their home was the place now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rutschman and family, who purchased it in August, 1942.

Six Vacation Bible Schools Will Be Opened on June 12

Six vacation Bible schools sponsored by the Salem Ministerial association will open June 12 to run for two weeks, closing June 28. Chester O. Goodman, former pastor of Englewood United Brethren church, will be superintendent of the six schools, which will be manned by a force of 70 teachers.

The schools are to be held at six churches in various parts of town, selected for the convenience to various residential sections.

The churches at which the school will be held at Jason Lee Methodist church, Jefferson and North Winter street; First Baptist church, Liberty and Marion street; Englewood United Brethren, 17th and Nebraska street; Highland Friends church, Highland and North Church; Leslie Methodist

church, Lafayette and South Commercial street; Knight Memorial Congregational church, 19th and Ferry street.

Pre school children, four and five years old, and children in the first six grades, will be served in these schools. The program emphasis will be biblical and not denominational, according to the statement of the association committee in charge. Members are Weaver W. Hess, J. Kenneth Whart and Willard B. Hall.



GENERAL'S NEPHEW—Cadet Robert C. Arnold (left), nephew of General Henry E. (Bap) Arnold, commander of the AAF, is instructed in combat navigation by 2nd Lt. Charles W. Bolg at the Headquarters Army Air Field, Hondo, Texas.

Jones Baler Starts Work

MISSION BOTTOM — Creighton B. Jones baled the first hay here for this season, Friday, then moved his new pick-up baling outfit to Glenn Hilderbrand fields where he will bale clover and alfalfa.

Jones strung irrigating pipes in his string bean field in preparation for the first irrigation Friday. Pomroy on the Egan place, has been irrigating cow pasture for the past week.

The cannery peas are in full

bloom and have been dusted for the third time. Boysenberries are in full bloom and berries are expected in about six weeks after the first bloom.

Scotts Mills Students Finish at Molalla

SCOTTS MILLS — Graduates of the Molalla Union high school this year are Elaine Blattman, Awanda Owens, Dorothy Hilton, Rosalee Hurst, R. J. Hurst, John Ward, Beryl Nomer and Lois Rich. Many relatives and friends attended the graduation exercises held in the Molalla Union high school auditorium.

Washington Outlook

By the Washington Staff of the Associated Press

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WASHINGTON, May 27-(P)—Watch for a spectacular performance by Lt.-Gen. George S. Patton, jr., in the battle for Europe. Army friends report the general is determined to erase by feats of daring leadership the reputation he got in the "slapping incident" and more recently in his speech saying that the United States, Britain and Russia were destined to rule the world.

Official Washington was upset by the last occurrence and the general has not spoken out since. The senate military affairs committee failure to approve his permanent promotion this week is evidence that what he has said and done still stands against him.

Among ranking officers who have served with him, Patton is more admired for his reckless, driving leadership than anything else. It was for savage, fearless soldiery that General Eisenhower shielded him in Sicily after the slapping affair and later took him to Britain. It is said that he has an important invasion assignment and friends are convinced that he will be in the forefront of the fight.

Navy department — Reports around the capitol have it that Navy Secretary Forrestal is looking for a young westerner to succeed him as undersecretary and is considering two congressmen and a navy man. Reps. Lyndon B. Johnson (D-

Tex.) and Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.), both long members of the house naval affairs committee and who have served the navy in the Pacific, are mentioned. The third man is Charles F. Thomas, California-business man who was a naval aviator in the first World war and who has been acting as a production expert for the navy in this one.

Bare beer outlook — Brewers would be cut first if the government decides on possible new restrictions on the purchase and use of grains because livestock feeders, industrial users and brewers are competing fiercely for cereals. Some war food officials urge that beer production be cut 25 per cent below last year's level, with the armed forces getting first claim on reduced supply.

Campaign gag — "My republican colleagues are predicting that on Nov. 7 there will be a cloud-burst of republican votes," young Rep. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.) told the Pennsylvania Young Democratic club convention at Harrisburg, Pa., "but my weather prediction for that day is that it will be only a little dewy."

Political calendar: May 30 — Alabama democratic run-off primary in 7th and 9th districts now represented by Reps. Manasco and Newsome. June 1 — Indiana republicans begin 2-day convention to name 29 national convention delegates.

candidates for US senate (seat of late Senator Van Nuys, Dem.); governor (seat of Gov. Stricker, Dem.); other state offices. June 2 — Maryland democratic state convention to choose 18 delegates. June 9 — Kansas democratic state convention names 16-vote delegation.

War Dads to Protest Strikes, Work Stops

PORTLAND, Ore., May 27-(P)—The Portland chapter of American War Dads urged its national council today to "adopt a resolution declaring as strongly as possible against strikes and work stoppages."

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