

The Oregon Statesman

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

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

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Member of the Associated Press

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Crime Wave and Paroles

J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the FBI, speaking before the International Association of Chiefs of Police at Miami, predicted a crime wave like that of the 1920's unless good policing is done against the racketeers and vice overlords and criminal scum. He cited the current increase in crime as compared with a year ago and blamed parents with laxity in control of their children, giving this as one cause of crime. He also criticized looseness of prison officials and parole systems which let criminals out to repeat their serious crimes.

It is quite probable that the number of cases of crime will increase following the late war. For one thing the male population was quite fully engaged during the war years, either being in the army or in profitable employment. Demobilization of armies and industries and release of the discipline of patriotism may easily be followed by increases in criminal offenses. The craze of getting money easily and quickly is a promoter of crime. The great institution, the home, has suffered severely under the pull of war conditions, and it has fallen down in instructing youth in good conduct.

We doubt very much, however, if Hoover can prove his case against parole systems. We incline strongly to the opinion that they bolster men for orderly living rather than stimulate the commission of heinous crimes. The parolee who goes wrong gets ample publicity and the system gets blamed for the individual's delinquency. People do not hear of the thousands on parole who are going straight, and who keep out of the toils of the law.

People should realize that except in a very few cases inmates of prisons will be released sooner or later. The purpose of the parole system is to help men get reestablished as decent citizens. Of course there is risk involved—if the men had not done wrong once they would not have been prisoners. But under careful screening by parole boards and then careful scrutiny by parole officers the risks are greatly reduced. In this state under the present parole system there have been very few cases of serious crimes committed by persons on parole. Prevention of the first crime is highly desirable, but prevention of second and third crimes, which the parole system aims at, is also desirable.

Censorship Revived

Russia's press reform was short-lived. At least the United Press correspondent at Moscow reports the restoration of press censorship at the soviet capital. As usual no explanations are given; merely the blue pencil starts moving again on the copy turned in by foreign correspondents.

The Russian conception of the press and of liberty of speech differs from that in democratic countries. Russian journalists and officials claim theirs is the only "free" press. They assert that their government exists for the people, therefore that its strict press control is "democratic." Our conception of a free press is that everyone has freedom to write as he thinks, excluding of course libelous matter. The two countries have differing philosophies of freedom, so there is no wonder the application of freedom to speech and writing differs.

What the Russians overlook is that popular government, as defined by Abraham Lincoln, is not merely government FOR the people, but government OF and BY the people. The Russian people have very limited participation in their government, and the minorities, if there are any political minorities, none at all.

Some of the papers are getting an initial in the wrong place in Walter Norblad's name. His full name is Albin Walter Norblad, Jr., but for easy identification he long ago dropped the Albin part (his father is familiarly known as Al) and goes under the name of Walter Norblad. Papers, which should have known better, like the Oregonian, stuck an A. in as a middle initial.

Editorial Comment

ORGANIZED TEMPERAMENT

The recent trouble at New York's Metropolitan Opera gives you a rough idea of what can happen when labor relations get mixed up with artistic temperament. It seems that the opera's chorus got into a dispute with its own union, the American Guild of Musical Artists, about some contract clauses the chorus members wouldn't sign.

When the contracts failed to come back AGMA, by way of punishment, suspended one of the chorus officers who is also a member of AGMA's own board of governors.

So what did the chorus do? It served notice on the Metropolitan management that there would be no more rehearsals until the suspended member was reinstated. It gave the management a short time in which to act, after which, it said, "we shall conclude that the management proposes to lock out the chorus."

Maybe you'd like to go back and read that again. Finished? Then let's go on. The opera management wasn't a party to the dispute. It had no right to reinstate the suspended chorus member. If it had tried it would have had to go over the union's head and run the risk of losing not only its chorus but its leading singers, most of whom belong to AGMA for the same reason that most of the famous instrumental soloists belong to Mr. Petrillo's American Federation of Musicians—because they have to.

So the opera management didn't reinstate the chorus member, and the chorists, who walked out, now consider that the management locked them out.

The whole thing makes about as much sense as most of the plots of the operas in the Metropolitan repertory. So maybe it's all perfectly clear to the folks at the Met—Albany Democrat-Herald.

Goblins in Japan

The democratic rash seems to be spreading in Japan. Now comes news of the formation of a new political party there, self-styled "tough guys of the street." Parenthetically it may be remarked there should be many recruits because with homes destroyed the people of the principle cities have little to do but swarm the streets.

The name of the new group is refreshingly different. It calls itself the "long-nosed goblin party," picking a legendary goblin "Tengu-Toor" as its patron saint. There at least is an idea. If it would set to music the words of James Whitcomb Riley's poem, "The Goblins 'I'll Get You,'" it might develop real political power. Think of the spooks that could be borne in parades to frighten the opposition.

We have never had a goblin party in this country, but we have had plenty of spooks and boogies, also red herrings and various totems, donkeys and elephants and roosters. Maybe we could do with a goblin party, republicans having proven unable in the last three tries to scare the democrats out of Washington, or the people into throwing them out.

At that, the party of "Tengu-Toor" must be rather frightening to the ones who have ruled Japan for generations. It would throw out the privileged classes, the emperor's privy council and the house of peers, retaining, however, the emperor as head of the state. They will need to be "tough guys" if they can accomplish this program and make it last, once MacArthur's back is turned.

Sputtering Fuse

Pat Hurley's promise of an atomic bomb detonation shriveled to a firecracker fizzle before the senate foreign relations committee. His confusing letter of resignation was followed by similar testimony from himself before the committee which was likewise bewildering and not confirmatory of his charges.

The foreign relations committee after reading the senate documents didn't even call for a vote on the Hurley allegations.

The great complaint that American policy in Iran had been wrecked turned out to be merely a difference of opinion as to who should administer lend-lease there.

The fuse for the great explosion merely sputtered and went out—and Pat Hurley along with it, from the scenes of power.

Interpreting The Day's News

By James D. White
Associated Press Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Something of shame and humiliation in every Chinese heart was lessened today as nationalist troops moved back into Mukden and Changchun, the industrial and administrative centers of Manchuria.

Many Chinese blamed their national government for not making a firmer stand against Japan when Manchuria was lost in 1931. Others blamed the foreign powers who stood by and watched Japan grab and get away with it.

But the return to Mukden, where it all started more than 14 years ago, is a mixed blessing in Chinese minds. For the nationalist troops had to have American help to get there and Russian permission to reenter.

American Aid Necessary
American help was necessary to traverse north China territory dominated by Chinese communists with whom the central government had not reached practical and detailed agreement on outstanding issues of national political and military policy.

Russian permission to reenter was waited upon because it was reported from Chungking—the Chinese did not want to offend the Russians, who had reconquered Manchuria from the Japanese in a six-day war.

Some Chinese officials who had gone to Changchun earlier had to withdraw last month because the Russians were about to leave on schedule, and there was danger that they would be captured by hostile Chinese troops, who may or may not have been communists.

Chinese elation at being back in Mukden may be chilled by the unconfirmed reports circulating in Chungking that China paid Russia quite a price in order to reach the new agreement whereby the Russians guarantee the safety of returning nationalist troops and officials.

Some nationalist officials, who won't allow their names to be used, even allege that the Russians demanded economic concessions in Manchuria which would threaten Chinese sovereignty there.

There is no confirmation of such rumors, and it also remains to be confirmed that the Russians have looted Manchuria's industry as some reports have hinted.

Clarification Awaits Reporters
Clarification of such questions must await the return of competent reporters to the scene in Manchuria, who may or may not be allowed to report fully by Chinese or Russian censors or both.

It must await, perhaps, the results of the big three foreign ministers' meeting which begins Saturday in Moscow, to which Secretary of State Byrnes is taking his chief far eastern affairs advisor, John Carter Vincent.

It may be only coincidence, but the Chinese reached their new agreement with the Russians for the reconquest of Manchuria shortly after it was announced that the new American ambassador to China would be Gen. George Marshall.

The full meaning of his appointment presumably will be made clear when President Truman announces the instructions he will carry with him when he leaves for China, perhaps late this week.

These instructions hardly can imply a less firm American policy in the Orient.



Headline Maker

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

BEACH RED, by Peter Bowman
(Random House, \$2.50).

One line per second, 60 lines per minute, 3600 lines per hour, this novel relates the experiences of some soldiers for exactly an hour during an invasion of a Japanese-held shore in the Pacific. It's a Book-of-the-Month club dual selection for December.

The arrangement is ingenious; intended to indicate the precise timing with which military operations are carried out, it gives the desired effect of speed and movement carefully plotted in advance.

The story starts aboard a transport, follows the troops as they transfer to landing craft, wade ashore and break through the first thin crust of resistance. But the main incident is the patrol of four men sent behind Japanese lines to report the disposition of the enemy's forces and whatever they can learn about his plans.

Bowman, who didn't take part in the invasion he describes, though in the army he trained for amphibious landings, relies on his imagination to good, even excellent, effect. When he sticks to factual description he is vivid, realistic, full of telling phrases.

But while his characters, who by the way do not come to life as individuals, are attacking the Japanese, he is being attacked by figures of speech. And though his people win, he loses. There are more figures of speech, and more elaborate and pretentious ones, than were ever crowded into so few pages before. For every "minute" there is a tag line that for me is more often a wisecrack than an epigram.

Although this is the work of one man, it somehow seems as if several had had a hand in writing it. They are the soldier who did the fighting . . . and

News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The war which the CIO declared upon President Truman for daring to suggest fact-finding on threats of national strikes is developing covertly upon the familiar pattern of the pressure-propaganda wars of the Roosevelt administration.

It got started promptly this week. The first I personally noticed of it was Monday morning, when the incoming mail on my desk included ten letters of the old "you so - and so" type. Since Mr. Truman came into office these had become practically extinct.

My own minor section of the vox pop had reflected a unanimity of appeal toward reasoning and fairness. Then all of a sudden there developed this wash of diatribe trivia in typical style, not against any point in particular. The venom glands of the minority vox pop were apparently being released.

Denunciations Reappear
Some editors informed me their own "letters to the editor" features were suddenly being used for similar denunciations, not only of the president, but even down to obscure persons who merely had been known to favor his mild solution of the problem.

These manifestations betray the usual propaganda technique of organized drives, although, so far, this one seems less widespread and less effective than those of Roosevelt times.

The theme for the war is being set at a rather high pitch. The premise publicly fixed by the auto union leaders is that fact-finding before strikes would be "slavery."

One Factor Stressed
Of course, the railroad brotherhoods have grown into the strongest and richest of all the unions in 19 years under this same fact-finding and cooling-off "slavery," but this fact is rarely mentioned, while the thought that the Truman proposal is vicious is continuously dimmed into the popular ear and eye.

You can see more fully what is being done in the work of a lady columnist who has been used for years to promote these drives under her own name. She says:

"I think we had better watch out for enslavement from the fascist side," and urges that no curtailments of any union activities be attempted for fear of promotinik fascism.

This propaganda represents no development from the old, familiar themes, which went over so well with the public when a fascist power existed in the world, particularly in Germany and Italy.

New a Dead Sport
But now that the world fascist leaders are condemned to the gallows or worse, hardly any reasonable person can awaken in the morning, all a tremble, to pray that this day will save him from enslavement by non-existent fascists. A senator promises the lady 10 cents a head for every American fascist he can name. Chasing fascist hobgoblins is a dead sport.

The truth is democracy has never been so popular in modern times as it is in this country today, and I mean pure American democracy, in contradistinction to the communist or fascist (they have reichstags) type.

The war on Truman therefore is not going well in congress where the issue will be decided. (While the campaign is aimed at the president, the matter is technically out of his hands.)

Practicing Restraint
In congress the CIO has found no hope except to delay or amend the proposal. All along a majority has been ready to vote some such mild restraint on strikes as this, or much stronger ones.

The republicans and party-democrats generally want something much stronger. Administration inside opposition previously prevented action. Its assumption of leadership on this issue leaves the unions bloc alone. In the senate this would not rustle over 15 votes of the 96 on a straight-cut; in the house the percentage would be higher, but no more effective.

Thus the unions have been forced to restrain themselves to trying to throw the matter over beyond the Christmas holidays by warning against haste while organizing their propaganda. This is the best they can do.

Increase in Oiling Program Asked

Seven county roads in the vicinity of Salem were asked placed on the summer oiling program at Tuesday's hearings before the Marion county court.

Road 739 from Center street to Auburn road, road 839 for 1½ mile and road 706 were among those referred to the court for oiling.

Browning avenue, Childs avenue, Judson street, S. Summer street were city streets which petitioners sought to have oiled next summer.

Campaign Set For Funds to Fight Disease

Oregon is ready to make this year's drive for funds to combat infantile paralysis the biggest ever, Dr. E. T. Hedlund, Oregon state chairman of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, said as he announced county chairmen for the campaign.

As in previous year, the campaign will be concluded on the late President Roosevelt's birthday on January 30, and will feature the "March of Dimes" and other fund raising events. Each county chapter will plan and execute its own special events.

Fight to Be Constant

Stressing the fact that the dread disease is no respecter of time or place, Dr. Hedlund declared that there can be no let up in the constant fight to seek preventatives of the disease and in giving medical assistance to those who have been stricken.

"Oregon has been fortunate in that it has not had a serious epidemic of the disease, but we have had a greater than usual number of cases and we cannot afford to let down our guard," Dr. Hedlund said.

Counties Retain Share

Fifty per cent of the funds raised annually in the campaign remain with the county chapters to provide medical assistance for those who need it. It was pointed out that several of the counties have exhausted their funds and have received advances from the national foundation so that no sufferer need be deprived of proper medical attention.

County chapter chairmen include: W. R. Milliken, Benton; J. T. Longfellow, Clackamas; Karl W. Caswell, Linn; Dr. W. J. Stone, Marion; Rawson H. Chapin, Polk; Dr. V. C. Staats, Yamhill.

County campaign directors include: Martin P. Coopey, Benton; Paul R. Biggs, Clackamas; Karl W. Caswell, Linn; Ray L. Houch, Marion; Rawson H. Chapin, Polk; Earl R. Nott, Yamhill.

Cutoff Proposed As State Highway

In a letter to the state highway commission County Judge Grant Murphy has asked that the commission take over the 12th street cutoff from the south city limits to the Pacific highway as a state highway.

Judge Murphy stated that the 12th street cutoff is practically a highway anyway as all heavy truck traffic is directed over it rather than through the city center.

He says that if it is desirable the county court will appear before the commission and give information available on the project.

Permit Issued For Store Building

J. L. Batdorf was issued a building permit Wednesday by the city building inspector's office to erect a store building at 2905 Fairgrounds road at an estimated cost of \$15,000.

A building permit was also issued to E. H. Hobson to alter a one-story dwelling at 468 S. Capitol st. at a cost of \$1000. Guy F. Hastings was granted a permit to build a one story dwelling at 2456 Claude st. at a cost of \$2000. A permit to build a garage and woodshed at 2350 Laurel st. at a cost of \$100 was issued to Mrs. Lula Mosier.

Reconnaissance photographs in color during the war showed the slight but vital difference between living foliage and the branches cut for camouflage.

MRA Idea Is Described by Australians

Moral re-armament as the answer to problems of keeping the peace was presented to Salem Scepticismists by a colorful group of English and Australian speakers at the organization's Wednesday noon luncheon meeting.

Ivan Menzies, world-famous Gilbert and Sullivan comedian, serving as master of ceremonies, opened the program with "Tilt-Willow" from The Mikado, spoke briefly of the reasons why 200 members of the MRA movement are traveling over the country presenting their ideas in dramatic form and introduced the other three speakers.

Patricia Salter of Adelaide in South Australia, daughter of a rancher in that area, said she had visited 14 countries with this or similar groups and was impressed with the force of the movement. She read a letter from a mother emphasizing the part women can play in molding a better, world-wide civilization.

Lt. Jim Coulter, a newspaper reporter in Perth, West Australia, declared that the problems which face nations today are those inherent in human beings and that only a change in human nature can do away with greed and selfishness and so with industrial unrest.

Both Miss Salter and Coulter, still in his RAAF flight officer's uniform, spoke of Oregon's similarity to portions of Australia. Coulter with the son of the West Australia premier, was assigned by his air force superior to come to this country to study Moral Re-armament, he said.

"Oregon has been fortunate in that it has not had a serious epidemic of the disease, but we have had a greater than usual number of cases and we cannot afford to let down our guard," Dr. Hedlund said.

Christmas Story Hour Saturday at Public Library

After an introductory period of carols, the Christmas story time at the Salem Public library will begin at 10 o'clock this Saturday morning, in the children's room. All who like stories are invited to attend the program, which will feature stories about Christmas from many sources, as well as an old English song of the gifts brought on the Twelve days of Christmas. Colorful decorations throughout the room establish the holiday atmosphere, with the Nativity scene, tree, and many other Yuletide figures and customs shown.

A program of Christmas recordings will replace the regular stories on the Saturday before Christmas, December 22.

Olivers Visiting Families Here

LIBERTY—Lt. Kenneth Oliver, USNR, and his wife, formerly Sgt. Madeline Oliver, who has recently been discharged from the WAC, are visiting Mrs. Oliver's mother, Mrs. Catherine Schmidt, and the lieutenant's brother, Dr. Egbert S. Oliver, Salem, and other relatives in this area.

Lieutenant Oliver, who entered the navy in March, 1943, taught gunnery and aircraft recognition at Pensacola training station and since July has been on the carrier Sitka Bay in the Pacific. Mrs. Oliver has been stationed at Orlando, Fla.

Both are graduates of Williamette university. Lieutenant Oliver is on terminal leave. They plan to leave shortly for Madison, where he has one more term of studies to meet requirements for a Ph.D. in literature.

OSC ALUMNI ELECT

CORVALLIS, Dec. 12.—(P/M-a). John B. Fenner is the new manager of the Oregon State College Alumni association. A 1940 OSC graduate, he succeeds Warren A. Reid, resigned.

Christmas Gifts

that do more than adorn

Pins, Earrings, Bracelets, Chokers, Pearls, Lockets, Crosses, Anklets, Rings

STEVENS & SON

239 Court St.