

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Vents of Inflation

The characteristic of inflation is too much money in relation to supply of goods. We have had that condition ever since the government began its big-scale wartime spending. As more people were employed and wage checks grew faster and as production of civilian goods was reduced the materials for a period of inflation were at hand. To head this off price control through OPA was set up, with wages to be controlled through WLB.

OPA has dealt chiefly with prices of goods and rentals. It has labored diligently and with some success to hold the price line and prevent runaway prices on commodities.

It is a mistake, however, to think that holding retail prices in rigid line may succeed in thwarting inflation. The volatile gases find some other escape from the balloon of too much money. We witness this in the rise in prices for real estate. The current real estate market is determined not merely by the law of supply and demand for housing and commercial structures. It is also affected by the speculative frenzy. People who have accumulated money look on real estate as "sound," and rush to invest wartime profits in real property. Real estate is sound, that is, it is tangible property; but the investment at current prices may not be. This boom has, however, afforded an outlet for the accumulation of money.

Another outlet was in the stock market. As in the 1920's when the commodity price level remained fairly constant, surplus cash went into Wall Street speculation, along with a big lot of credit. The collapse of 1929 was the beginning of the cycle of deflation.

Still another outlet for this excess money has been in commercialized recreation, travel to resorts, etc. The take at betting booths at race tracks has been enormous. The "easy money" of the war found an easy avenue of escape in this form of spending.

It's all part of the process of the play of forces of inflation and deflation. It's quite impossible to protect all fools from their folly; and not all these spenders are fools by any means. They may turn out wise investors. The idea we are getting at is that it takes more than price control to prevent the evils of inflation.

## Salesmanship on Way Back

It is a true and humorous commentary on all of us that our yen for things material diminishes with their availability. If you don't believe it, ask the merchant who suddenly finds himself with such an abundance of once-scarce articles that he can't tell his customers they can have all they want.

We don't want to encourage a "run" on anything, but this true story of a Salem business can be cited: Last week one particular home appliance arrived in quantity. It was an article which many folk had avowed would be one of their first purchases when it was available. The merchant filled his window. Sales were fairly brisk—far more so than before the war. But his stock did not disappear nearly as rapidly as he had anticipated—and he had a new shipment on the way. So he turned psychologist. He took all but one of the items out of his windows, stored the rest. Business immediately perked up. The turnover of that single item became almost a race. He was busy all day replacing the one on display.

It can well be imagined that the item in question was not nylon hose, a new car or the like—someone may get killed in the rush when once more its possible to walk-in-walk-out with something like that. But its illustrative. Most merchants are becoming increasingly aware that the day when they'll actually have to sell their wares is fast approaching.

## Through Sleepingcar Service

A group of eastern and western railroads have announced cross-country sleepingcar service to be instituted this spring. Prodded by the ads of Chesapeake & Ohio, which in turn grew out of the fight to purchase the Pullman company's sleepingcar business, the roads concerned announce that they will operate sleepingcars straight through from San Francisco and Los Angeles to New York and Philadelphia. Hitherto, breaks have occurred at Chicago, St. Louis and New Orleans.

This operation is not as simple as it sounds. St. Louis has a union terminal but Chicago does not. There are numerous depots strung around the fringe of the Chicago loop, and considerable switching will be required to make the connection. For example, Northwestern trains which bring in passengers from the Union Pacific enter the Northwestern station in Chicago. Pennsylvania trains leave from the Union station several blocks away; New York Central trains leave from La Salle street station still farther off and B & O from the Dearborn street station. To provide through service on these lines a single NW train would have to pull in three separate Pullmans to be switched to these three roads. Clamoring for some of this business will be the C & O and the Nickel Plate, the roads that started the rumpus. That would make five separate Pullmans if all were provided.

These cars are to start from San Francisco and Los Angeles, which would double the number of sleepingcars going through without change. Now if Seattle and Portland are able to find a place in the sun the number is again doubled. In years of thin traffic there would not be nearly enough passengers to fill these cars; and the connecting roads will not want to carry half-filled cars on to their destinations.

Still another difficulty arises with streamlined trains. These are articulated units, the

train operating as a whole. They cannot well be broken up. And these speedy, streamlined trains will be the most popular, leaving fewer passengers for the regular trains carrying sleepers.

On heavily traveled routes like the Overland, through sleeping car service via New York Central or Pennsylvania may be feasible. But it will not be practical on roads where traffic is light and divides among several routes.

## Hitler's Genius

When some weeks ago The Statesman characterized Hitler as a "genius" it drew on itself editorial rebuff for allegedly heroizing the demon of Nazi Germany. The same term is used, however, by Maj. H. R. Trevor-Roper of British Intelligence in a word portrait of Hitler appearing in a recent issue of the N. Y. Times Magazine. The author can speak with authority because he is an expert on the Nazi party and was in charge of the investigation into the truth about Hitler's death. He writes:

He was a genius, of course; a revolutionary genius—it is useless to deny that, for no ordinary man could have achieved such a masterpiece of destruction. . . . But if a genius, Hitler was never a constructive genius. At the bottom of his heart, behind the meaningless phrases of peaceful intentions and the defense of western civilization, he wished only to destroy. When he thought of himself as a great historical figure, it wasn't as any of the great builders of civilization: it was as one of the scourges of mankind—Alaric, Attila, Genghis Khan.

A strange mixture of self-appointed German Messiah and petty bourgeois, Hitler possessed peculiar personal powers which made his closest intimates regard him sincerely as Der Führer. To quote:

His eyes especially had a hypnotic effect. They weren't bright; they were a dull and opaque blue tinged with gray. But they had an intensity which subdued the beholder. One of the ablest of his court admitted that Hitler's mere presence left him exhausted and void.

Something of the fire of genius, malevolent though it was, must have glowed in those blue-grey eyes. It does not glorify him to admit the power of his personality or his capacity to win and hold a faithful following. On the other side of his nature he was trivial and mean, one whose superstitious nature made him consult astrologers, whose tastes were mediocre, whose fears of assassination became almost pathologic. His became a wasted power, an evil genius who will be remembered longest for the woe he brought on the world.

Housing officials say there's a serious brick shortage. It would happen in an election year. But at least there's no scarcity of mud.

## Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON  
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WASHINGTON, March 26—The mud is getting thicker all the time.

Up rose the dubious democrat, Commerce Secretary Wallace, to demand a commission of party leaders to discard nonconformists. This added a fresh trolley of mire to the slippery democratic condition, in a novel and surprising way, because Wallace made such a career out of being a non-conformist himself that the party would not have him again for vice president with Roosevelt, but chose Mr. Truman in his place. His proposal sounded as if the detached tail of the party had announced itself as the head and proposed to sever the body.

The matter got up to his knees in mud when party chairman Hannegan added his portion to the Wallace layer—by denouncing "a minority of dissident democrats." This came so soon after the Pauley

fray, some interpreters thought the denunciation meant Hannegan wanted to purge the party of the supra-party forces which defeated his and Truman's man for the under-secretary of navy—namely the Ickes-CIO-Pepper group which lives, acts and speaks above the party, sometimes with Wallace joining in.

"Purge" seemed Part of Plan. These supra-democrats have uniformly been "dissident," so naturally, some people thought Wallace and Hannegan wanted to purge the regime of these obstructionists.

Explanation is the proper answer. To kick out of the party the democratic majority in both houses because it has failed to enact the CIO program, which is also a part of the Truman program, including unemployment compensation, minimum wage and such ventures. Mr. Hannegan was speaking against the southern and other democratic legislators who have held back this program of the Ickes-Pepper-CIO-Wallace ilk.

Into this muddle, which had been prepared for slinging, rushed President Truman to smooth it over. He renounced purges of the Wallace fashion, and eschewed denunciation of the Hannegan order, saying he was not in favor of disciplining bolters. Thereupon Mr. Hannegan presented to the Jackson day diners the new policy of "the even hand," urged that the bogged legislation be enacted and concluded: "That way, for our party, lies victory in 1948."

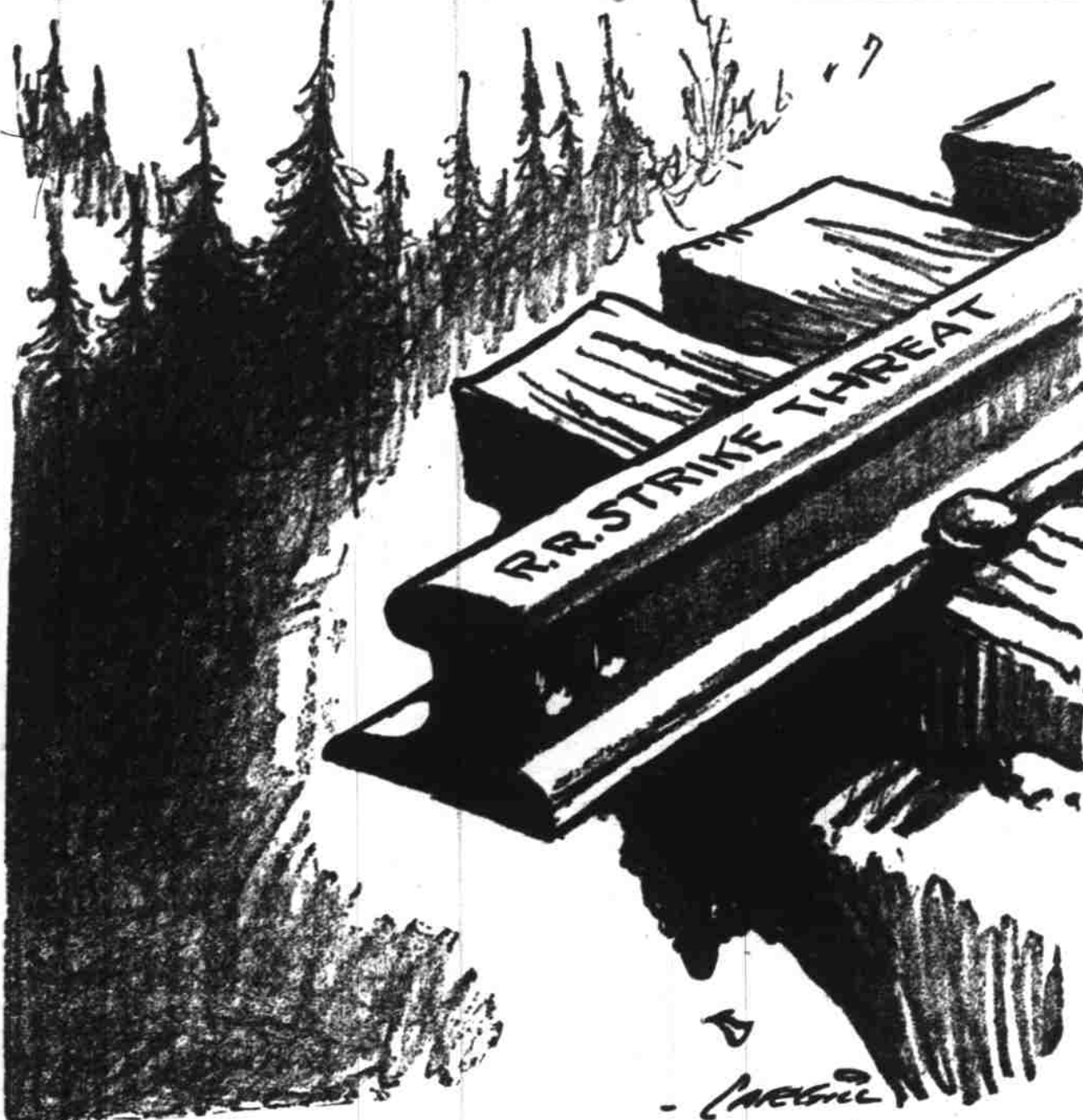
Believe CIO Less Popular This Year

This, the belabored congressmen, do not believe. No great popular demand for these legislative items has been evident to them. They are inclined to believe CIO is less popular this year than last.

These democratic confusions have inspired the comment you hear frequently these days that the republicans are approaching the threshold of victory.

I think the time has not yet arrived for such a final expectation. If Truman can get the economic system working by fall, the democrats will be able to strengthen their case. The pending Truman-CIO legislation is of little genuine importance, because it does not touch the vital question of the nation's economic welfare this year.

The question is: Can Truman get the country going? And from the answer which events will furnish to that question in the next eight months, the election result will be drawn.



Union Terminal

## The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

SCIENCE, LIBERTY AND PEACE, by Aldous Huxley (Harper, \$1).

Huxley calls science on the carpet in this thin book and gives it a talking-to that is not so prejudiced as might be expected from an accuser who holds somewhat exotic spiritual convictions.

"The progressive decline of liberty and the progressive centralization of power" have paralleled the advances of science, which he charges, obsequiously serves capitalism or the state. He wants it to serve the people who, he says, grow more and more helpless before dominant minorities. From laboratory and test tube he asks, not atomic bombs, but primarily food for starving millions.

If that sounds like Utopia, it's a lot more sensible than World War III.

THE BEAR THAT WASN'T, by Frank Tashin (Dutton, \$1.25).

A bear, waking up in spring to find a factory built around his cave, is almost persuaded that he's a workman, not a bear. Only the return of winter and heavy snow convinces him he's a bear, and even that does not convince the humans. Though there are still almost 10 months to go, this could easily be the best cartoon book of 1946.

THE SINGLE PILGRIM, by Mary Roland (Crowell, \$2.50).

When Stephanie Thorne's fiancée is reported missing in action, she steps out in despair and has herself one wild time. Result, syphilis. Then fiancée comes home, and she has to admit deflection and infection. The theme deserves treatment. . . . as the disease does; after all, the 19th century had its pallid, wasted heroines who coughed to death. But this is pretty much claptrap.

THE GREAT DIVORCE, by C. S. Lewis (Macmillan, \$1.50).

Here's my report on this fantasy: Characters: dead souls. Scene I: a sort of "Celestial Omnibus." Scene II: the threshold of Heaven, a tough place where souls, much like autos on a testing ground, are tried out. Moral: you can't compromise, it's all



(Continued from page 1)

by diversion of the milk to powder a higher return can be made to producers. If the latter is the motive it does not show the dairymen up in a very good light. For when they enter the business of providing fresh milk to customers they assume a certain obligation to maintain service, a moral obligation only, to be sure, but hardly one to be treated lightly.

Again, it is recalled that in the 1930s when prices for factory milk were very low, producers for the fresh milk trade resisted price cuts to bring their product into its normal relation to factory milk. To resist pricing in relation to the general market then and now to jump out of fresh milk production because of a better return from factory processing is inconsistent, to say the least.

The producers in their advertisements and statements have made only general references to increased costs as a basis for higher prices. Presumably this data was available to OPA examiners and was reviewed by them. The following are the facts as I have dug them up, using Portland prices.

The fluid milk price to producers on Jan. 1, 1941 was 58¢ per lb. butterfat; on Jan. 1, 1943, 87¢; Jan. 1, 1946, 95¢; under new OPA ruling \$1.01. In addition, there is a government subsidy of 17½¢ per lb. butterfat on four per cent milk. This subsidy in former years was reduced during the season of good pasture.

Portland feed prices were:

black or all white. Heaven is closed forever to the man with even a mote in his eye. Effect: painful. Remarks: you'd never believe the author of "The Screwtape Letters" wrote this dull and lead-footed book.

## GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



—And after those atom bomb trials in May, Admiral, I suppose the Navy will let you out!

## County to Accept Retirement Plan By Default Method

Marion county will accept the state officers-retirement system by the default method May 1, according to County Judge Grant Murphy who indicated a tentative agreement among county members had been reached Tuesday.

Under the law the system automatically becomes effective if no action against it is taken by the county court by May 1. Expense for the initial budget will be about \$15,000 the judge said, adding that it would be up to the budget committee to locate the funds.

Although a few county employees are not in favor of the system, Judge Murphy stated, the majority of them, especially the older ones, are in favor of the retirement program.

## Cannery Signs New Contract, 15-Cent Raise

A contract calling for a 15-cent per hour wage increase was signed Tuesday by the Kingwood Canning Co., north Portland road, and the Cannery Workers local No. 670, E. S. Benjamin, union secretary announced.

Besides the straight wage boost for all workers the agreement also provides for vacation privileges, overtime rates, holiday overtime pay, a 5-cent per hour night shift differential and call and standby time.

The call and standby time phrase of the contract, a recent innovation in union agreements, means that when workers are called to the cannery to work they are guaranteed a minimum pay, even if they don't work that day, Benjamin said.

Because the Kingwood plant intends to can a type of product which includes meat, the contract also included butcher workmen. This phase of the agreement was signed by H. C. Barker, of the Butcher Workmen local No. 280.

Lee I. Thomas, general manager of the cannery, signed both contracts for the employer with Barker and Benjamin.

## Oregon Snap Bean Canning Forecast Good

Steadily increasing per capita consumption of canned snap beans in the United States forecasts an era of stability for the snap bean canning industry in Oregon. E. H. Bell, vice-president of American Can company, said today.

In 1940-41, last normal prewar crop year, American cans ate 2.2 pounds of snap beans, canned weight, per capita as against 1.5 pounds in 1936-37, or an increase of almost a pound, Mr. Bell said. The can company official said that the snap bean canning industry in Oregon, which started in a small way, has shown a sound and steady development which is becoming more important each year with the opening of new canneries.

## Late Rally in Grain Brings Slight Increase

CHICAGO, March 26.—(AP)—A late rally today carried active grain futures more than a cent above yesterday's close, but last minute profit cashing cut the advance to fractions above yesterday's finish at the bell.

The rally came after a dull day, on reports of export demand for oats and strength of oats at Minneapolis.

During the greater part of the day most traders were inclined to wait out official information on what is going on in Washington.

Trading in wheat was confined to some outright sales in deferred months and some spreading in the May and July contracts. Good rains were reported from the winter wheat country.

At the close wheat and corn were unchanged at ceilings, \$1.83 1/2 and \$1.21 1/2. Oats were unchanged to 1/4 higher than yesterday's close, May 83. Rye was 1/4 to 1/2 higher, May \$2.17 1/2-3/4. Barley was unchanged at ceiling, \$1.26 1/2.

## Single Stocks Show Strength

NEW YORK, March 26.—(AP)—Individual stocks exhibited strength in today's market although numerous leaders backed into losing territory.

Many customers cashed profits on the idea that the recovery of about 70 per cent of the February slump had served as more than a normal technical correction. The division of the UNO security committee over Iran chilled enthusiasts to some extent and the threat of a walkout of 400,000 soft coal workers this weekend was a cautionary factor.

Final quotations were well mixed. Transfers of 1,440,000 shares compared with 1,640,000 the day before.

The Associated Press 60-stock composite was off .1 of a point at 77.8, first dip since March 19.

Table with columns for stock names and prices. Includes: Al Chem & Dye, American Can, Am Pow & Lt, Am Tel & Tel, Anaconda, Alchison, Bendix Avia, Beth Steel, Boeing Air, Canadian Pac, Calif Pac, Case J. I., Chrysler, Conwith Sou, Cons. Edison, Cons. Vulfec, Cont Ins, Crown Zcl, Curtiss Wr, Douglas Air, Dupont Du Ne, Gen Electric, Gen. Foods, Gen Motors, Goodyear T, Gt North pfd, Int Harvest, Int Paper pfd, Kennecott, Long Bell A, Maytag, Miami Copper, Mont Ward, Nash Kelvan, Nat Dairy, NY Central, North Am Co, Northern Pac, Pac Am Fish, Pac Gas Elec, P T & T, Pan American, Penney J C, Radio Corp, Rayonier, Reynolds Met, Safeway, Sears Roebuck, Sinclair Oil, So. Pacific, Stan Brands, Stan Oil Cal, Stew-Warner, Studabaker, Sun Mining, Union Oil, Un. Pacific, Un. Airfrnt, U. S. Steel, Warner Bros, West El Mfg, Woolworth.

## Salem Bible Academy Buys Building Site

Purchase of a tract of approximately 40 acres of land as building site for the Salem Bible academy and college was announced Tuesday by L. L. Hughes, field manager of finances for the academy which opened last fall in West Salem.

The land, which includes the Thomas T. Crozer and adjoining properties purchased from Elbert and sons, is on the Dallas highway approximately 1 1/2 miles from the Salem city center. It extends from the pavement to the hill on the north and is a beautiful elevated building site, Hughes said.

Offering high school work this year, the interdenominational Christian school is to expand to include seventh and eighth grades next year and eventually to offer junior college (two years of college) work, Hughes said.

Plans call for a one-story building consisting of at least 12 classrooms, administrative offices and auditorium, constructed so that additions may be made later as funds permit.

## AVC Planning 'Charter Rally' Thursday Eve.

A charter rally open to all veterans of World War II and their families will be staged at 8 p. m. Thursday in Waller hall on the Willamette campus by Salem chapter, American Veterans committee.

Aims and history of the organization will be explained briefly by local members, following which addresses will be made by Charles A. Sprague, former governor, and Dr. Charles Durden, local Baptist minister.

Vance MacDowell, temporary chairman of the new local group, said Tuesday that the AVC program in Salem calls for an active part in civic advancement activities, forums and public meetings, citywide polls and other events consistent with the AVC slogan, "Citizens First, Veterans Second."

## Law School Adds Four to Faculty

Because enrollment at the Willamette university college of law has been doubled this semester, four new members have been added to the law faculty. It was announced Tuesday by Ray Smith, acting dean of the law school.

Offering courses in abstract and conveyancing is Urlin S. Page; classes in conflict of law are being taught by Willard H. Wirtz; teaching bankruptcy is William Linfoot; and instructor in common law pleading is Charles H. Heitzel. Other members of the faculty are Dean Smith, Prof. Roy M. Lockenour and Robert DeArmond.

## 4 New Bridges Planned on Road

Proposed road changes on county road 944, south of Marion, call for construction of four new bridges and general road improvement according to County Engineer Hedda Swart, County Commissioners Roy Rice and Jim Smith and County Bridge Foreman Ted Kuenzi who reviewed the project Tuesday.

The area affected by the new road conditions is a heavy produce section of the Santiam bottom which sends considerable deliveries of beans, carrots and other produce over the road.

Advertisement for Stevens Manufacturing Jewelers. Includes text: 'Stevens Manufacturing Jewelers', 'Lovely mountings of various designs to enhance the beauty of your diamonds. Available in platinum or in gold.', 'Diamond rings cleaned and checked regardless of where purchased. Without charge.', 'Extended Payments', '339 Court Street'.