

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
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CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher

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### A Fixed Easter?

This year's unusually late Easter is almost certain to pose another problem for the United Nations—once that organization has disposed of the more vital questions of world peace and prosperity.

The suggestion to fix Easter on a definite date was one of several calendar reforms before the old league of nations, and 18 years ago the British parliament set the date as the first Saturday after the first Sunday in April. But the action was contingent upon international acceptance which has not been forthcoming.

Only three times in the remainder of the 20th century will Easter fall on as late a date as this year, and then by only one day. Under the present method of specifying Easter Sunday—from tables compiled by Clavius for Pope Gregory XIII in the latter's calendar reform—it can come on any of 35 days—from March 22 (which was Easter in 1818) to April 25 (in 1896 and 1943).

In commenting on the varied dates, The Associated Press says that if no specific day is fixed "further complications may arise through the progress being made in complete calendar reform, which already has the endorsement of 14 nations; present complications" under the irregular date affect school and college terms and vacations, shopping, and the fashion industry in general. But there has been more than merely commercial objection to the irregularity.

Churchmen themselves have urged a fixed date, particularly after 1823 when, because the calendar moon does not gibe with the real moon of the heavens, the resurrection was celebrated before the anniversary of the crucifixion—which as ecclesiastical opinion seems to concur, took place on Friday, April 7, A. D. 30. Even the early Christians do not unanimously agree, but after the matter went before the league of nations in 1923, the Roman, Eastern Orthodox and Anglican churches, at a special conference, decided that the demand for a fixed Easter was virtually universal and unanimous.

The AP's David Bareuther, who compiled some of these interesting statistics, comments that "of course, even if the U. N. should bring about an agreement to change this (Easter) phase of the calendar, there might be a few irreconcilables." But there probably wouldn't be many.

### OPA Extension

The amendments tacked on to the OPA-extension bill by the coalition of republicans and democrats are so crippling that it would be better to let price control die when the present law expires on June 30 next. That would open the gate to price inflation, but it would be recognized for what it is and the normal economic forces would set in to counteract it. The house-approved measure virtually paralyzes the control machinery and the resulting chaos might give us higher prices without the production stimulus which works their cure. Better, in the judgment of this newspaper, merely to extend the present price control system, unsatisfactory as it is, for a term of six or nine months than to try to recognize its machinery under the house blueprint.

In our judgment the republican-democratic coalition has yielded to business pressure groups whose sincerity is dulled by their trade interest. It is true that OPA regulations are unwieldy and bafflingly complex. It is true that price controls are violated by black market operations. Nevertheless on balance, OPA has blunted the apex of inflation. Had the administration given wage control the same support it is attempting to give price control the situation would be far better than it is. Not all the faults of OPA are chargeable to that administration.

The reason for extension of OPA is to permit a longer period for adjustment of factors in the business field: Renewal of labor supply, decline of government buying, resumption of foreign trade. Once the horses are reasonably lined up at the starting line, government should say "Go" and let competition be renewed. In another six months relaxation of government controls, unless it be on rents, ought to be possible. If congress would merely say that price control ends December 31, business would have something to figure on. Reconversion would be rushed to completion; production would be accelerated; prices would soon come into normal relationship with costs and demand.

The amendment which seems to wreck OPA is the one guaranteeing each manufacturer and distributor a profit on each item handled. This is nothing short of scandalous. It legalizes price increases to the very peak and has the effect of forcing inflation. It means that the price for every item must be fixed at levels which will yield a reasonable profit to the least efficient producer of that item. It pushes regulatory cost accounting to the nth degree, impossible in orderly and speedy administration.

Food subsidies ought to be liquidated; but the house rule says that the compensation for the subsidies must be provided in price increases as they are reduced. Why guarantee a price increase as subsidies are withdrawn? This amendment is congressional price-fixing well in advance of the date to be effective, the absurdity of which ought to be evident.

The bill which left the house, hacked and plastered as it was by a coalition of revolting democrats and rampaging republicans, reflected less the general public interest than the clamor of noisy trade associations and business groups. Unless the senate streamlines the bill to make it both more honest and more practical the president should veto the bill when it reaches him rather than to try to continue OPA in mangled form.

### Goring the Bull

Here is one for the book: The CIO union of marine cooks and stewards has appealed to the Oregon delegation in congress to "prevent a recurrence of the Portland milk strike and a rise in the price of fluid milk." The union protests that the price of milk is entirely too high now and objects "emphatically" to any and all attempts to lift price ceilings.

Unions hold that the right to strike is fundamental, and they regard wage increases at every contract negotiation as absolutely necessary. But when farmers borrow the strike tool in an effort to get a price increase they are just greedy extortioners. It all seems to depend on which one is goring the bull.

A Washington eccentric has left his estate of \$30,000 to the person who can best define the word "joke." His son who was cut off with \$50 ought to be able to offer the best definition.

### Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, April 20—And another thing about democratic campaign strategy:

Not only have the party chieftains exhibited confusion in a series of ridiculous "mistakes" as to whether they are running Mr. Truman or congress this year, but they have been building up a sideline campaign on the Roosevelt bier. First one member of the Roosevelt family was trotted out as a prospective candidate for governor of New York; a young man without previous experience or political pretensions, who, if he wanted to start as his father did at that age, would run for the town council or assembly. This was done by an indescribable minor newspaper in New York, the same newspaper which, incidentally, led the fight against the Truman administration in the Pauley matter, smearing it with

oil. While it is an indescribable publication, it always pretends to represent what the late Mr. Roosevelt might want.

Sudden Renewal of Interest in FDR

Then, Mr. Truman went to Hyde Park in a major memorial demonstration and made a speech supporting Roosevelt policies, and all the avenues of popular publication, the newspapers and magazines, have carried articles and pictures, most of them his fourth term campaign picture. In other ways, there has been a sudden recrudescence of interest in Roosevelt by those most interested in the coming election,—for his first annual memorial day, but also just as their campaigns are getting started.

Now, there is nothing surprising about candidates running on coattails borrowed from history. A lot of politicians ran many years after Washington's death, upon his memory, and I have no doubt 20 years from now (if things are still the same as they are now), some child may run for office claiming that Mr. Roosevelt once said he was a good man.

The point of protest I wish to make is that this is a new age. The problems facing it are entirely different from those Mr. Roosevelt faced, mostly ineffectively. I do not wish to argue now whether Mr. Roosevelt was right or wrong, only to point to the absurdity of politicians trying to wrap themselves in his memory, instead of facing the issues which now confront this world.

Issues Most Critical in History

The issues are more critical than any in the history of time and space. After Washington, elections decided only issues of thirteen states and muskets; and in Roosevelt's time, forty-eight states and 16 inch guns. Now they will decide the fate of the world and the atomic bomb. We are in world politics up to our necks and everywhere we are confronted with the most vital—and no doubt conclusive—issue of totalitarianism versus fundamental democracy. It is our way of life against theirs. We should know it. They certainly know it. Now, what would Mr. Roosevelt have done about that? He never faced that problem. He cannot answer from the grave. It is up to present day politicians to give their own answer.

In domestic affairs, the issues are apt to be equally decisive, and decisions made will no doubt be conclusive as to where this world is going. We have the issues of inflation which could rob the people of all the value of their work, the issues of control through pressure groups and power politics which are threatening if not undermining the effectiveness of democracy.

Debt Itself Poses New Problem

It was one thing to talk about the debt of the people when it was twenty billion dollars, when Roosevelt came in. Quite another policy may be necessary now when it is nearly three hundred billion dollars.

The problem of taxation is one thing when it is designed to confiscate the wealth; quite another after the wealth is confiscated. The old problems of capitalism such as prices and competition, have been inflated also to a point where we all know it is a question now of how much more the balloons will stand. It is one thing to handle a balloon when you first start puffing into it, but some change of tactics are called for if you have been blowing into it for fifteen years. Who can say that Mr. Roosevelt, who blew himself entirely out of wind trying to get an inflation started, without success, during the early years of his administration, would not, if alive today, turn around, seeing what the war had done to everything, and recommend the opposite course?

Taking of FDR Name Is Without Authority

In any event, the Roosevelt administration is over. The taking of his name by politicians for issues in the past year and from now on, is without authority. The building up of any campaign around his grave is a shameful avoidance of responsibilities we face today—greater than any Roosevelt faced because these are apt to be final.

Some say, and wisely: let us leave Roosevelt to history. Others say: history is apt to be short. Short or long, it will be a new history and it will be what we, in the world, make it. We certainly cannot make much of it by rattling skeletons.



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### What He Wants is More Evidence

### The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

I CHOSE FREEDOM, by Victor A. Kravchenko (Scribner's; \$3.50).

Two years ago the author of this book made our front pages dramatically by walking out of his job with the soviet purchasing commission in Washington and quitting the communist party. He takes 481 long pages here to tell what he's got against the USSR.

Son of an anti-czarist revolutionary, he was imbued in his youth with longing for liberty. He seems not to have been, however, an active supporter of the revolution at the start; he denounces with equal fervor both red and white armies fighting in his native Ukraine. Long the seat of separatist movements; and he did not become a member of the communist party until 1929.

The first deep disillusion came with the brutality which, according to his account, characterized collectivization. From then on, it would appear, every Russian was either spy or spied upon, and Moscow's every move was for the primary purpose of entrenching Stalin and his associates. Today, says Kravchenko, "the hundreds of millions of people in the USSR have no voice in shaping their own destinies."

Among his charges, some of them made before by another emigre, Alexander Barmine, who got to a publisher first, are these: Stalin entered into his pact with Hitler in earnest, failed to use the two years' leeway to prepare for war; the Russians "did not fight for Stalin but despite Stalin;" soviet casualties were huge because of "the kremlin's blundering brutality;" Moscow was so demoralized in the first autumn that it could have been captured easily; Russia still envisages an entire communist world; in short, with the change of a few names, the allies' indictment of nazi war criminals at Nuremberg "is an adequate summary of the soviet regime."

"Mission to Moscow," by former U. S. Ambassador Joseph E. Davies, he calls "a hash of ignorance and double talk and in large part plain silly." Kravchenko cannot understand Wallace's praise of "economic democracy" in Russia, nor how Wilkie could have been "so



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stepped out to Easter service during the presidency of pious Benjamin Harrison. He would wear a Prince Albert coat, in fine black broadcloth with satin revers. His trousers of a similar material would be narrow and increased for pants-pressing is a 20th century trade. He would not be wearing Oxfords (low shoes to the present generation) but either black high top shoes or boots of fine leather, the tops inside the pants legs. (Streets often muddy made high tops a necessity) But shoes or boots would be polished to shine like mirrors.

For headgear your well-dressed man of 60 years ago would wear a top-hat, its silken fur lustrous in the spring sunshine. Underneath his flowered waistcoat would be his "boiled" shirt which he laboriously pulled over his head, the present coat-shirt being a comparatively recent innovation. His collar would be of stiffly starched linen and his cravat a bulbous ascot accented by a pearl stickpin. Adding to the elegance of his costume would be his detachable cuffs, round, with huge goldstone cuff-buttons. (Oval cuffs with cuff-links and metal gadgets for fastening cuff to sleeve came later, to be followed shortly by links as part of the sleeve, with cuffs still employed.) The gentleman's "foundation garment" of the period were two-piece underwear, with long drawers and long sleeves, and his hosiery was real half-hose, not the bobby-sox style now affected.

When this man stepped forth from his brownstone front carrying gold-headed ebony cane in his grey-gloved hand he made distinguished company for his wife with her voluminous skirts, amplified by bustle, her tight bodice and her hat with its sweeping plumes.

Styles have changed. The one-time sartorial splendor of the male has disappeared to be succeeded by the informality and universality of the sack suit, the

elaborately deceived" in the short time he spent there.

soft hat, the colored shirt and the four-in-hand necktie whose color strikes the only high note in the male costume of today. While splendor in attire belonged to great-grandfather's day, males are revolting from the drabness of the business suit,—witness the effulgent sports clothing, cowboy rainbow shirts, ten-gallon hats and greenish tweeds. But none of these on Easter morning.

"Clothes make the man" still runs the clothier's ad. They also reflect the man. The passing of the man in the Prince Albert and the frock coat marks the passing of the plutocrat and the aristocrat. Not even the tradition of Easter can revive the tailored male of America's gilded age.

### Practical Religion

—by Rev. John L. Knight, Jr., Counselor on Religious Life, Willamette University

Vital religion requires that one live his highest, do his best, and develop his greatest potentialities. Few people would hesitate to agree on that.

Consider, then that religion requires us to be intelligently informed individuals. In the eyes of the law, ignorance is no excuse. Nor in the eyes of morality. As Browning put it, "Ignorance is not innocence but sin."

### Cpl. Lee M. Bollinger With Army in Manila

Cpl. Lee M. Bollinger, husband of Mrs. Ann Bollinger, Mt. Vernon, is serving with the general engineer district in Manila as an armorer. He has been in the service for two years, and overseas for 15 months.

He attended Salem high school and was employed by the Fox Midwest Amusement company as a motion picture operator.

Assigned to the 311th Engineers of the 86th division in Manila is T. 5th Gr. Eldon F. Tietze, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Tietze, Stayton. His wife, Rita and son, Douglas live in Stayton. He was inducted in August, 1944, and left the states in February 1945.

Pvt. Frances Bailey Southwick, is in Madigan hospital at Fort

## Program Announced for State Young Republican Convention At Portland Next Week End

Adam F. Lefor, chairman of the Young Republican convention to be held in Portland at the Benson hotel April 26 and 27, announced Saturday the northwest regional conference would convene at 1:30 Friday, April 26, with Lofton Tatum of Portland as chairman. Representatives from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana will be in attendance.

Robert S. Farrel, jr., secretary of state, will give the address of welcome followed by greetings from Gordon Allott, of Lamar, Colo., national chairman. Reports from the four states will be given. A dinner will be given for the northwest regional delegates and

Young Republicans, with Henry Cabot, jr., Lodge, at 6:30 on Friday. At 7:30 p. m., a group meeting of all republican organizations of the state with the Young Republicans will be held, followed by an open forum on proposed resolutions to be submitted to the convention on Saturday with Steve Anderson, of Salem, chairman of the resolutions committee, presiding.

At 8 a. m. Saturday, the convention will begin with a no-host breakfast for Senator Lodge. At 9 a. m. registration of delegates for the state convention will take place. Committee meetings will be held at 10 a. m., and at 11 a. m., a meeting of all Young Republicans with Senator Lodge will be held.

Lefor, general chairman of the convention, will open the sixth annual convention at 1 p. m., introducing the state chairman, Thomas C. Hartfield of Roseburg. The annual banquet will be at the Benson Hotel at 7 p. m., with Gov. Earl Snell giving the address of welcome. Henry Cabot Lodge, jr., former U. S. Senator from Massachusetts, will give the main address, "The Republican Opportunity."

Among those planning to attend the convention are Gov. Earl Snell, Leslie M. Scott, state treasurer; Robert S. Farrel, jr., secretary of state; W. E. Kinsey, labor commissioner; Homer D. Angel, Harris Ellsworth, Lowell Stockman and Walter Norblad, congressmen; Wayne Morris, U. S. senator; Eugene Marsh, speaker of the house 1945 session; Howard Belton, president of the senate 1945 session; Niel Allen, chairman of the state central committee; Joe Felton of Salem, president of the Oregon Republican clubs.

Young Republican headquarters will open at the Benson hotel on Tuesday, April 23, and reservations for the banquet and hotel rooms must be made with Adam F. Lefor, convention chairman, by Wednesday, April 24.

### Youth No Bar to 'Queen' at Grade School Carnival

Something, and somebody, new in "queens" will come to Salem this week. The Bush grade school will have one chosen from its own ranks by visitors at the school's carnival, set for 7:15 p. m. Thursday. Each room will have its own candidate.

The carnival, design to help in the purchase of a school projector, will feature a Dutch tea room, weight-guessing, pond fishing, boxing, movie, games, fortune telling, a side-show, beauty shop and clowns.

### Farm Labor Needed Now

Local hopyards are providing the best housing facilities for workers in this locality, according to the farm labor office Saturday.

"The yards need workers badly," Gladys Turnbull of the local office said. Hoing and stringing are in full swing, with training just beginning.

The recent warm days also have brought on an increased demand for workers in the strawberry fields, where about 500 more acres were planted this season than last, the office said. About 50 men and women can be placed on other jobs including beet and grape planting, land clearing and work in the onion fields.

### Settlements Reported in Price Panel Cases

PORTLAND, April 20—(Special) Price panels of local price control boards have reported the following settlements for alleged overcharges made on items ranging from shoe repairs to sawdust.

Lebanon—A. L. Lucas, Halsey, \$195, paid refund on used car to purchaser at Brownsville. Salem—J. H. McDonald, route 1, box 245, Salem, refunded \$27.35, above ceiling price on machinery item.

Mary E. Lovett, former Ph.M. 2/c, in the WAVES, has returned to Salem. She is the daughter of Mary W. Lovett, 1396 Fir st., and expects to enter college. Before joining the WAVES, she was a teacher at the Oregon school for the blind.

Lt. Earl Cassellius, army air force, is visiting his mother, Mrs. Juanita Cassellius, 765 Judson st., while on leave from Memphis, Tenn. He will report back to Ft. Totten, N. Y., for overseas duty. Lewis, Wash., after returning to

the United States on the hospital ship Ernestine Koranda. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Southwick, 1179 Marion st.



### FBI Schedules Law-enforcement School Monday

The semi-annual law enforcement conference, to which all officers in this area are invited, is scheduled by the federal bureau of investigation for the council chambers of the city hall at 7 p. m. Monday.

Leading the work will be Howard I. Bobbitt, special agent in charge of the Portland FBI office, who will discuss the post-war crime trend.

Special Agents John R. McCulloch and Ralph C. Vogel will talk on bank robbery investigations and safety precautions in the hauling of domestic and foreign-made small arms.

A demonstration in practical arrest problems also is to be given.

### GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"For 4 years I dreamed of delicious home-cooked meals—3 years in foxholes and 1 year that I've been out!"

## STEVENS

Diamonds-Watches-Jewelry

## EASTER JOY!

Every year about this time we look forward to wishing you a happy Easter. May the Easter bunny make all your wishes come true!

339 Court St.

Salem, Oregon