The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY
CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher
Member of the Associated Press

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News From Washington

The Capital Journal, using Arthur Krock, Washington correspondent of the New York Times as authority, claims the new deal segment of the Washington hierarchy is busy shooting its poison arrows at John W. Snyder, the new secretary of the treasury. Yet a few days ago some other Washington correspondent accused the new dealers of boosting Vinson for the supreme court in order to get rid of him in the cabinet. Vinson's selection was credited as a victory for Hannegan and Wallace. Strange they would kick Vinson upstairs and make room for another man they hated.

The difficulty is that Washington correspondents, who have to write something, often pull stuff out of the air, follow wrong leads or play bum hunches. As a result they are not too trustworthy. Take Krock himself, he played Hull as his prime favorite for a long time, and is not free from personal prejudice though as head of the Times bureau he has excellent sources for information.

For the news that comes out of Washington a larger dose of skepticism is needed than for most other news. In that political swamp trails are soon lost, currents lead to dead pools and sunlight is obscured by the dank growth of rumor, design, deceit, ignorance. Even the president seems to be lost in the swamp.

Idaho Politics

Idaho politics is pretty much of a merry-go-round. William E. Borah was about the only consistent winner in that state. His vagaries seemed to suit the people. With other office-holders it has been pretty much of a leap-frog affair. The term of governor is only two years, and governors change about that often, so the statehouse is in a state of perpetual motion—new appointees moving in as displaced office-holders are moving out.

The Idaho whirligig did a good spinning job Tuesday, in the state primaries. Senator Gossett who had himself upped to U. S. senator from the governorship when John Thomas died, was defeated for the senatorial nomination by State Senator George E. Donart. C. A. Bottolfson, "Butt," who served one term as governor, was defeated for reelection, came back to serve another term, was defeated for the U. S. senatorship two years ago by Glen Taylor, the guitar-strumming minstrel, was beaten in the primaries for the senatorial nomination by a St. Maries physician, Dr. C. A. Robins.

The political survivor in the primary race was Gov. Arnold Williams who is now serving out the Gossett term.

If Idaho's government suffers, as it does, from its biennial political upsets, its politics is at least far more interesting than Oregon's where political inertia prevails.

It took 100 motorcycle policemen to escort the wing of the big Howard Hughes flying boat, at Los Angeles, through the streets to the sea where the plane will be launched. This was the Henry Kaiser cargo plane which Henry urged as a means of speeding transportation and ending the war. The doubting generals and admirals were called "brass hats" by the swivel-chair strategists and editors.

An official report in Paris says that the grand mufti of Jerusalem left France in an Air France plane for Damascus, instead of a British plane as first dispatches stated. Maybe France, remembering Lebanon, turned him loose in the middle east to get sweet revenge on Britain.

"Three Hundred Pickers of Strawberries in Final Stretch" runs a newspaper headline. That's the straightening-up stretch to the accompaniment of "Oh, my poor back."

Behind the News

By Paul Mallon

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WASHINGTON, June 12—The outburst of Justice Jackson against Justice Black is being widely shushed as only an outcry from a personal quarrel. That is the least of it. What is behind it is far more sensational and important, to wit:

A clique headed by Mr. Black has gained ascendency in he supreme court, the Roosevelt appointees of which are split three ways to the utter confusion of law. Black's associate in the top faction is Justice Douglas. Black has managed increasingly in the past year, by various means, to get a majority, sometimes only of one vote. Enough of the other justices do not know where they want to go to permit an inner chaotic condition to become solidified under manipulation.

Paul Mallon

New Jackson struck out in such an amazing and unprecedented manner because he saw in the Vinson appointment to the chief justiceship, a chance to break the Black faction. A story is being commonly told on the inside that Jackson was motivated by the activities of Black and one or more of his unidentified colleagues on he supreme bench in inducing Mr. Truman not to appoint Jackson to the top seat. There have been reports that Black directly threatened to resign if Truman chose Jackson.

Legal Revolution

However that may be, the controlling point is Jackson interpreted Mr. Truman's choice of Vinson as a move by the President to clean the highest bench of the confusions in legal decisions which have corrupted law, in fact have comprised a revolution, a social revolution, upsetting the great bulk of legal customs and precedents, a revolution which has not settled ino any stability or effected any common acceptance of new law, but which plunges deeper and deeper as it proceeds. In this interpretation of Mr. Truman's intent, Jackson was right. Indeed, the conditions Jackson describes concerning the internal affairs of the court, explain conclusively why Mr. Truman resisted the pressures to appoint a sitting member to the top seat, but got an outsider and one of his own personal friends for the job. (Truman called in Justices Hughes and Roberts who told him of the inner court condition.)

It would be inaccurate to predict any swift success for this endeavor, however, even with the president, Vinson and Jackson collaborating. The Black faction has a hold on the internals of the court, from its long build-up of power over the years. (Jackson says their machine reaches even to the inspiring of columnists). Chief Justice Stone could not do it, and Vinson merely replaces the temperate legal inspirations of Stone.

Democrats Ignore Court

For these reasons, if not equally strong democratic political reasons, there has been little talk of impeaching anyone, or doing much investigating, and congressmen were slow to react. Whatever is done is apt to be done quietly. The average democratic congressional attitude has been to ignore the court as much as possible. Indeed, private lawyers stay away from it as much as possible, and outstanding legal authorities have publicly advised young lawyers to compromise cases in private, and remain out of the court as much as possible, because of its political nature—and remain out until a judicial nature is restored.

Thus Jackson lifted the hive on the bench only an inch and let out only one wasp, confirming with inner facts a condition which has been public knowledge for some years, affecting as he said "the reputation of the court for nonpartisan and unbiased decisions." He merely contributed to public knowledge by revealing Black's inside leadership in the case of his former law partner, his influence on Justice Murphy to write his opinions, and such matters. Black's refusal to withdraw from the close decision and his change of opinion from the time he sponsored the very same law in congress, and twelve months earlier in another dicision in which his law partner was on the other side of the case, was apparent in the record at the time, but never before advertised by his court colleagues.

This is no fight between conservatives and liberals. It is a reflection of the bitter cleavage in leftwing to liberal ranks, and against the Black court leadership now that Roosevelt appointees have the whole court practically to themselves. It is developing into a movement by the liberals to oust the radicals.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty

"Other road ain't nothin' but trees—but this one's the scenic route—plum full of purty gals pitchers on sign boards!"

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

great democratic party in California with a registered majority of about half a million voters, has no democrat running for governor; instead the party has a republican as its candidate for the highest office in the state! What an incongruous situation!

Governor Warren has been a good governor and merits reelection. But the democrats of California should have their own candidate to run against him in November.

The primary system has pretty well destroyed party organization on the state and local levels. This has quite effectively smashed machine rule and bossism except in cities; but it has made parties amorphous masses living largely on tradition save as some leader provides his party with a temporary program or set of principles. The open primary would further impair party organization—what enthusiasm can California democrats generate for their candidate for governor?

The singular thing is that while liberals, like Tompkins, hold party organization of low esteem, if not in contempt, the more extreme groups like the communists, for example, have the most rigid party discipline of any political organization. See what happened to Earl Browder when Duclos, the French communist, called for a shift in the party line.

The destruction of the old parties leaves a sort of vacuum into which new, tightly disciplined groups may enter and seize power. The grange itself is not "liberal" when its own theories are challenged. Unless its policy has changed lately, it still refuses to admit to its publication arguments on the other side of issues to which it is committed. That is its privilege, to be sure. The end result of being "liberal" may be a denial of liberty by people who know what they want and how to get it. Even Henry Wallace, who certainly qualifies as a "true liberal," is calling for party loyalty and party discipline.

As I see it, the Tompkins idea gives no assurance of better government and would make more of a mess of state and local politics and weaken party organization when it needs to be strengthened and made to stand for principles that mean something.

TRUE ENOUGH

The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

CHURCH ON "THE SALEM WAY"

To the Editor:

I got quite a kick out of Don Goode's scolding about the laxity of Salem in the matter of veterans' housing, and the Statesman's careful response. Don is right in saying that Salem hasn't done as much as it should for the veterans, but he is wrong in intimating that Salem doesn't care and hasn't tried. What he doesn't seem to understand is that Salem does things in the Salem way, which is different from any other way on earth. It's like this:

If Salem officialdom was faced with the necessity of digging an official post-hole, it would not be a matter of merely taking a spade and digging the hole. No, indeed! That is not the Salem way. It would be a matter of appointing a commission, making extensive surveys, receiving voluminous reports and recommendations, receiving petitions and remonstrances, giving due consideration to the arguments of those favoring a round hole and opposed by those who figured that a square hole would be better. And there would be much solemn reiteration that the whole business must be a matter of "long range planning" rather than the simple meeting of a present need. It would probably be necessary to import some "experts" to instruct us in ceremonious procedure, but eventually the hole would be dug unless the necessity had passed by the time the decision was reached, and it was found that merely driving a stake would answer the final purpose.

So Don should not be discouraged. The housing will be provided—at least in time for the veterans' children to enjoy. Speaking of children, the veterans evidently didn't fool with long range planning in that project.

A. M. Church

Fire Fighting School Slated

Plans have been completed by the state forestry department for fire training schools, involving all state and association units, starting late this month, Nels Rogers, state forester, announced Wednesday.

The schools are designed primarily for wardens and operator representatives who are likely to serve in overhead positions, with the attendance of seasonal personnel and emergency crews optional with the district wardens.

Bernie Orell, state forestry department training official, will be in charge of the schools.

19 Scholastic, Forensic Prizes Awarded Willamette Students

Nineteen scholastic and forensic prizes were awarded to outstanding students of Willamette university Wednesday at the annual awards chapel program. President G. Herbert Smith made the presentations.

Frank J. Healy, Salem, received the Frank A. Turner prize of $35 for having had the highest scholastic average among law students for the past year.

Francis Sopp, Portland; Willis Person, Salem, and Joyce Furman, Hall, Mont., were winners of $150 each from the Mary L. Collins fund presented annually to three outstanding sophomore students.

Marion Crews, Wasco, received the Charles E. McCulloch full tuition scholarship for the upperclassman with the best scholarship over a three year period.

The $100 Meier and Frank prize, awarded annually to an outstanding student, went to Shirley Gribskov, Junction City.

For her selection as outstanding junior woman, Doris Bartholemy, Portland, won the $40 Annie M. Barret memorial prize.

The $25 Albert prize for the student making the greatest scholastic progress for the year went to Don Preiss, Portland.

Winner of the Ellen J. Chamberlain and Julia Schultz $200 scholarship for the most talented music student was Adlene Gould, Newberg.

Katherin Schissler, Salem, received the Joseph Holman $100 music scholarship for the outstanding music school student.

Recipient of the Colonel Willis $25 prize for the student annually contributing the most to others was Devon Long, Salem.

The Chi Omega social service prize went to Ann Strother of Portland.

Forensic awards presented included the Rex A. Turner $35 debate prize to Kay Karnopp, Portland; the state after dinner speaking prize of $5 to Ben Mosher, Portland, and the George Neuner best orater award of $25 to Jean Evans, Independence.

Linfield after dinner speaking awards as well as the College of Pacific oratory and extempore speaking prize went to Kay Karnopp.

Girl's Mother Brings Charge Against Man

R. D. Anders of Dallas will face a charge of making indecent advances to a 15-year-old girl and biting her ear, when he appears for preliminary examination in Salem justice court at 3 p.m. Friday.

Anders was charged with intoxication by city police who captured him Tuesday night after a chase in which a patrolman fired two shots. Anders paid a $10 fine in municipal court Wednesday but, meanwhile, the girl's mother had sworn out a warrant for the other charge.

Police reported yesterday they were called to the Greyhound bus terminal to investigate reportedly susupicious actions by Anders and, after having warned him to return home without causing trouble, observed him entering a taxicab in the downtown area. Police said they followed him to 888 N. Commercial st. where Anders apparently was bothering a girl as she was about to enter her home at that address. Anders fled, but was caught on a nearby street after the policeman fired twice in the air, it was reported.

Mrs. Winkler Sells Business

LaVerne Gibson Winkler, who has provided Salem women with hats for the past 25 years, has sold her stock and location and retired from business.

With her sister, Hallie Gibson Stirniman, she opened the Gibson Millinery 25 years ago in Salem at 441 Court st.

They remained partners in the Gibson Millinery and later the Bonnet Shop until the sister's death eight years ago. Mrs. Winkler, wife of Herbert W. Winkler, plans to stay out of business and remain at their home, 830 Saginaw st. A jewelry store will be opened in the location, after the stock of hats has been sold by the new owners, Mrs. Winkler said.

Alterations Contemplated

Permits for eight house and store alteration projects and three new buildings were issued Wednesday by City Engineer J. H. Davis.

The new buildings are a $7,500 house at 860 Rural ave. for E. K. Snodgrass, a $5,000 house at 265 E. Wilson st. for H. J. Thomas and a $700 warehouse at 1305 S. 13th st., for W. R. Grasle Co.

Alterations permits: A. G. Anderson, house, 1295 Fir st.; Paul Hansen, apartments, 1795 S. Cottage st., Helzel estate, store 356 N. Liberty st.; Utley & Blodgett, house, 650 Shipping st.; Ada Brauner, house, 345 S. 20th st.; Dar Larmer, house, 1610 S. Summer st.; Carl A. Coulson, house, 560 S. 16th st. ,and Christopher Paulus estate, office building, 356½ State st.

Seattle Man Dies After Swallowing Insecticide

SEATTLE, June 12—(AP)—Coroner John P. Brill, jr., said an unidentified man took his own life today by snatching a bottle of insecticide from the display of a south side store and swallowing the contents.

Clerks and customers looked on in dismay. Brill said the man, dressed in brown and carrying no identification, walked to the street and collapsed.

Thomas Paine, English - born author of "The Crisis" and "Common Sense" was given an estate at New Rochelle by the state of New York.

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