

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Slanting the News

A delegate at the AFL state convention in Astoria introduced the following resolution:
"Whereas the daily press owes its existence to the moneyed class, depending upon advertising from employers of large concerns, (and) practically every daily newspaper in the United States colors all news affecting labor to create public sentiment against workers, suppresses news which would reflect to the credit of union labor... be it therefore resolved that the State Federation of Labor urge that a move be brought about through concerted effort to establish news broadcasts by radio columnists and in as many daily newspapers as possible throughout the United States which will editorially espouse the cause of organized labor."

The resolution begins with a wrong premise, asserts a false charge and betrays its bias in the last sentence.
Newspapers do not owe their existence to the "moneyed class." They depend for their existence on mass circulation. If they have mass circulation they get advertising. Why do merchants advertise in the Hearst press for example? Not because they like the Hearst style of journalism, but because that style of journalism appeals to the consuming masses who form the big market for merchandise.

Next, newspapers do not "color" labor news to create sentiment against workers. The newspapers of America through this period of crisis have printed all the pertinent news giving the statements and views of leaders on both sides of industrial disputes. Editors have offered their own comments in their editorial columns; but only a handful of papers "slant" the news or the headlines to prejudice the public mind against labor. Trained men, skilled in news handling, write and edit the news stories and in actual operations neither editorial writers nor publishers take any hand in treatment of news on the industrial front.

Finally the purpose of the resolution becomes evident when it calls for a "concerted effort" to channel news by newspapers and radio stations which will "editorially espouse the cause of organized labor." What is wanted is not uncolored news, but news colored in favor of the labor side.

Labor was underdog a long time. It now is topdog and not using its powers too sensibly. It is the abuse of newly-won power with resulting grave injury to the whole economy which brings protests from the public and from newspaper editors. Instead of resenting this criticism labor should correct its conduct.

Institute at Reed College

Annually Reed college at Portland sponsors a Northwest Institute of International Relations. The twelfth such institute is in progress now and will continue to June 22nd. A faculty of 14 authorities in the field of international politics gives lectures on topics of timely importance. The lecturers are drawn from many fields and institutions. Those attending have opportunity for questions and discussions.

The daytime lectures are on the college campus; the evening sessions are at the First Congregational church in downtown Portland. Those able to attend will be well repaid for their effort, for they will get a broader view of the world in which we live.

Neil MacNeil, assistant managing editor of the great New York Times, writes in his paper that the soviet union is deliberately contributing to the current "world confusion." He asserts their agents or sympathizers work in American activities, particularly in the field of communications (newspapers, magazines, radio, etc.) to control or color the flow of information. MacNeil's testimony merely confirms what our own special contributor Paul Mallon has said frequently in his column. He has made frequent use of the word "confusion" as the design of the communist partisans. This is old stuff in labor disputes, where the reds prefer not peace, but strife and do their best to prevent successful collective bargaining. People of the country need to be on guard against this inspired confusion and keep their own balance of thinking.

"Here's your hat, what's your hurry" is the way the Italians disposed of King Umberto. The majority voted him out; a noisy minority protested his going. Umberto lotted a few days, then sensibly boarded a plane for Portugal to join the company of throneless monarchs.

Behind the News

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WASHINGTON, June 13.—Mr. Byrnes went forth to the latest fray in Paris to decide the fate of the world in a somewhat different spirit than he went before — and also from the British.

Last time he threatened to make treaties separate from recalcitrant Russia if necessary to gain a peace. This time he took the view "if we fail it is a defeat for mankind."

By contrast, the British Mr. Bevin was sent on his way with the strong backing of parliament. Some inner reports suggest the labor party conference may let critics of Bevin loose, but this can hardly suggest a weakening of policy, as conference action has already been arranged to reject the communist party application for affiliation and debar it from even seeking admission to the labor party again.

Equally indicative of unified British parliamentary backing was the almost full agreement between the Bevin and Attlee labor speeches to parliament and the Churchill opposition speeches. The tone of parliament was perhaps accurately portrayed in a speech unreported in this country by H. Strauss, member from the English universities who said:

"The issue is between the rule of law and despotic power. If Mr. Bevin could not succeed in maintaining the principles he regarded as essential, the house would forgive him if he came back confessing his failure. What it would not forgive was if he abandoned any of those values vital to survival of our civilization."

But Mr. Byrnes went back proclaiming he would not again present any proposal to the conference of foreign ministers along with Britain. This may have indicated a willing of cooperation between the two leading free democracies, which would be just what Russia wanted, as she has charged there exists an Anglo-American "bloc."

The British have a difficult time in the Russian zone. "To form a bloc was a crime, according to every communist in every land unless it be a communist bloc." Attlee substantially assented to this interpretation, and the further Churchill assertion that the communists thought it was "a bloc" to be on good terms with your neighbor, whereas Russia has not only formed a bloc through Europe and Asia, but it keeping an iron curtain around it.

H. Strauss gave the key to what the British tactics when he observed the only way to deal with the Russians was to stick to truth and make them stick to it. "Nothing should be held back out of a sense of fear," he wisely said.

Perplexing Prospect
The contrasts of these British and American (Byrnes) farewell talks offer a perplexing prospect at the beginning of the conference, which cannot be answered by any inside information I have been able to obtain here. Is Anglo-American cooperation to be broken? Has it already been broken? Does Mr. Byrnes really mean what he said or is he just talking Russian? While these inquiries cannot be answered safely except by events at Paris, it may be accurately reported that his statements indicate no determination, similar to Britain's, especially to face the truth of the matter, such as, for instance, in Germany (main point before the conference). In the Russian zone, a communist state has been set up; in our zone and in the British zone, two separate free democracies are operating. The Russian totalitarian state is simply not soluble with either of the free states, although the two free states are compatible and could be combined.

Clubs Send Contributions To YW Drive

First large club contribution to the YWCA building campaign from women's groups has been received, \$300 from the Salem Women's club.

The first club to contribute to the campaign was the Thursday club. Other organizations making gifts so far include: Altruism club, American War Mothers, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Delta Delta Delta alumnae, Eagles auxiliary, Home Economics club of Salem high school, Kingwood Garden club, Nebraska club, Neighbors of Woodcraft, Rainbow Order for Girls, Pythian Sisters, Rebekah lodge, Royal Neighbors of America, Salem Junior Woman's club, United Spanish War Veterans auxiliary, Women's Fellowship of Knight Memorial Congregational church, Women's Benefit Association, Salem Council of Women, Veterans of Foreign Wars auxiliary, Young Matrons club of the YWCA.

Gifts from other groups are expected before the next campaign report luncheon, Tuesday, June 18, Marion hotel.

Norblad Asks Training Fund For Veterans

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 13.—(AP)—A plea that funds for apprentice training be included in the labor department's 1947 appropriation bill was made to the house appropriations committee today by Representative Walter Norblad.

Oregon, the representative said, is one of the first states to participate in this program. The committee approved \$1,800,000 for the work.

Most of the training program has been carried out in Portland, Norblad said, adding: "The state apprenticeship council desires to extend the program over the state, and to this end, 26 local councils have been established. These local or area councils must have technical assistance."

New VFW Post Plans Picnic

All veterans eligible to belong to Meadowlark Post #102, Veterans of Foreign Wars, composed of World War II veterans, are invited to a picnic Sunday at Paradise island a half mile beyond the airport, according to Al McCarthy, entertainment chairman.

Friends and families also are invited, as well as women eligible to join the auxiliary. The picnic starts at 1 p. m. and will be a basket lunch. Refreshments will be served.

At a post meeting this week, Commander Dick Cutler appointed Ed Wierzbicki chairman of a memorial building committee, to work with other local organizations interested in the memorial. Lyle Brown was named membership chairman.

Stilwell Reveals Army Changes

SAN FRANCISCO, June 13.—(AP)—Reorganization of the military command in the eight western states was announced today by General Joseph Stilwell whose Sixth army this week assumed the functions of the inactivated Ninth service command.

District headquarters will be established at Seattle, Portland, Boise, Fort Douglas, Reno, Phoenix and Helena, with each state a separate military district, General Stilwell said.



GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"I took your advice about playing hard to get. Mother—and you know how people are these days about something like that!"

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

chance for a squeeze play and they certainly are making most of their opportunity. They got the senate appropriations committee to tie an amendment to the treasury department appropriation bill which lifts the selling price for silver (and the buying price) at 90.3 cents starting July 1 next and then makes the legal price \$1.29 an ounce starting July 1, 1948. This is three times the pre-war price for silver. Eastern senators are expected to fight the increase, but the little silver bloc by playing politics with other groups, has them cornered, and they will have to capitulate. The world price on silver is now about 80c an ounce.

The irony is that this raid on the treasury benefits only a very small group of people, the enrichment going in the past has been the cotton bloc primarily. It is doubtful if the death of its leader, Senator John Bankhead of Alabama, will affect the alliance. The treasury will continue, at increasing cost, to "do something for silver."

Temporary Homes Ordered Removed

PORTLAND, Ore., June 13.—(AP)—The federal public housing authority has ordered the demolition and removal of all except 20 of the 484 units at Peninsula homes, formerly east Vanport a Portland housing authority official disclosed today.

Executive Director Harry D. Freeman said the action came despite pleas of Portland groups for re-activation of the project, to house veterans and other families. The mayor's committee on temporary housing has set a hearing for Saturday morning in an effort to retain the buildings.

Oregon's Nursery Income Doubled

Income from Oregon's nursery industry totaled \$7,500,000 in 1945, with 4690 acres of land being used by the industry, the state department of agriculture said today.

The income is more than double that of 1940, when the last estimates were made.

HAIR CURLER POISONS

CHICAGO, June 13.—(AP)—Dr. Lawrence H. Cotler of New York said today that thioglycolic acid, when used in "cold wave" hair curling, has been found to produce symptoms of poisoning in some allergic and anemic persons.

CONTRACT BANS STRIKES

SAN FRANCISCO, June 13.—(AP)—Representatives of 32 major San Francisco hotels and seven AFL unions today signed a five-year agreement banning strikes or lockout in the industry, and providing for arbitration of disputed issues.

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Lions Told of English Food, Fuel Ration

Bomb damages, queues for rations and scarcity of food, fuel and clothing are still much in evidence in England, R. W. Land told Salem Lions club Thursday upon his return from a two-month visit with relatives in England.

Land asserted that the morale of the English civilians is slipping because the end of war has not improved their living conditions, and the apparent reason for this has been that country's emphasis on exporting in order to regain world trade lost during the war. Food and clothing seemed plentiful in Brussels, Belgium, and Dublin, Ireland, when he visited there, Land said. By contrast he cited as typical English civilian rations three ounces of butter, one egg and 26 cents worth of meat per week and, in the fuel line, a ton and a half of coal per year.

Land made the trip entirely by plane, he said it took but 15 hours to cross from New York to Ireland, but took 18 hours to travel by rail the 400 miles from Scotland to Bristol.

Klamath Falls Barracks for Sale to Public

PORTLAND, June 13.—(AP)—Purchase of the abandoned Klamath Falls marine barracks is open to the public, but customers have not appeared, the war assets administration disclosed today.

The public agency priority has expired, said E. Wilbur Barnes, head of the administration's real estate division.

The refusal of the state board of higher education to take over the property removed the most hopeful purchaser-prospect.

Barnes said he had a nibble in a suggestion that the state might be willing to take it over for vocational training.

He estimated the value of the barracks at "a couple of million dollars," but added that inventory has not been made. It cost the government between five and six million dollars. Full market value must be received from a private purchaser, but discounts ranging up to 100 per cent are allowable to a governmental agency.

ARC Workers Resign Posts

Mrs. Virginia Stevens, director of home service for Marion county chapter, American Red Cross, and Mrs. Elsie Holman, secretary in the home service department, have resigned their positions effective July 1.

Mrs. Stevens will go to Albany that date to assume the position of new executive secretary for the Linn county chapter of the Red Cross. Mrs. Holman has made no announcement regarding her plans. She has been in secretarial work at the Red Cross here for a longtime.

No successor to Mrs. Stevens as home service director has been chosen as yet.

Mrs. Stevens took up her work here last October 10, coming from Euphrata, Wash., where she served in the double capacity of Red Cross executive secretary and as acting field director in Red Cross for the Euphrata army air base. She has been in Red Cross work for 16 years, having also served in home service work previously and at one time as a chapter chairman.

Engine Crashes Roundhouse Wall

BEND, June 13.—(AP)—A defective throttle sent a freight engine crashing through the rear end of roundhouse here today, finally stopping at a precarious angle halfway out of the building.

The accident happened while the engine was being serviced on a track leading into the roundhouse. A 30-foot section of wall was torn out. No one was hurt.

Marines Release Cpl. John Wiles

Cpl. John D. Wiles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wiles, 1725 N. 18th st., was discharged from the marines June 3 after 26 months service. He served overseas on Admiral Chester W. Nimitz' Marine Guard on Oahu and Guam for almost a year before the end of the war. He then served on the guard of Admiral Struble, commander of minescraft in the Pacific, in and around Japan and China. Wiles plans to enter the school of pharmacy at Oregon State college, this fall.

\$100 CLUB TO RAISE FUND
PORTLAND, June 13.—(AP)—Oregon democrats will seek to raise \$10,000 through a "\$100 club" of 100 members each contributing \$100 to the state organization, party members who attended a meeting Saturday, reported today.

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