

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

"Scofflaw" Revived

Penalties aggregating over \$9,000,000 are sought from 40 lumbering concerns in the west through actions brought by OPA attorneys. The suits are the culmination of months of investigation of trade practices. Defendants are accused of violating OPA regulations through sales at over-ceiling prices, upgrading of materials, cutting lumber in odd sizes to obtain premium prices.

Undoubtedly nefarious evasions have been resorted to by profit-greedy manufacturers and wholesalers. The willingness of customers hungry for materials opens the way for price-gouging and trickery. Purchasers are penalized, but they are victims who consent to being raped. On both sides the dealing is bad, but the desperate customer has a ready answer: "What can you do about it?"

Man's extremity in housebuilding is the gouger's opportunity. The fact and the extent of these alleged violations of OPA regulations show the difficulty of enforcement of OPA rules. If this number is caught in the first dipping of the net how many fish got away who may be equally guilty? And what about other lines, like meat, automobiles, etc? If violations are widespread how effective can the policing be? The prospect of treble damages is a deterrent to be sure, but the lure of extra gains seems tempting enough for many to run risks of apprehension.

From reports we hear of current practices in grain buying we hate to predict what will happen this fall. In the scramble for grain, buyers go direct to elevators or farmers and by liberal payment of side money get truckloads of corn or wheat. Poultrymen and livestock feeders will seek protection of feed supplies against next season's needs, and if it takes something extra to prime the pump that may be forthcoming.

With full recognition of the need of price control and of the effort to enforce it we can see in these lumber cases themselves evidence of how OPA rules are ignored. This tendency is apt to spread in the months ahead, with the result that the ones really penalized are those who try to live up to the law.

Prohibition left us more than the word "scofflaw," it left us the spirit of contempt for regulatory law.

War Cost in Life

The war department has released the full lists of dead and missing for the second world war. The total deaths reported including those killed in action, dying of wounds and from other causes was 307,554. The number of missing is reported as 1,424. Since there were more than ten million men and women mobilized in the army the percentage for dead and missing is low, 2.98 per cent.

The Oregon toll was 2,821 dead and 14 missing. Our ratio for dead and missing is 3.69 per cent of those entering the army from Oregon, a little higher than the national average. The Civil war remains our costliest war. The deaths reported for the Union army were 359,528 and for the Confederate army 133,785.

Statistics do not tell the full story. Death of our strongest young men deprives society of the fruits of his mature manhood and robs their families and friends of their association.

We doff our editorial bonnet to Patricia Smith who swam 13 miles in the icy waters of Green Bay, Wisconsin, to safety after her father's ship tipped over. That's a good argument for learning to swim.—Corvallis Gazette-Times

A 13-mile swim back to bread and meat shortages, the old New Deal, hay fever, the atom bomb, OPA, the housing shortage, auto accidents, lineups for nylons—we're not so sure.

The editor of the Roseburg News-Review says he is tired of looking at OPA ceilings. He wants some attention paid to foundation and floors. That was NRA and the blue eagle. Does he want to revive them?

WASHINGTON, June 27—The Russians are playing a new game at Paris. Mr. Byrnes, they have pinned to idealism (he pinned himself largely), and about Mr. Bevin they do not care much. The instructions of our state secretary were largely his own. Mr. Truman gave way to tactics, warning only against sacrifice of our ideals—and none too firmly. Whatever Byrnes does in the form of a treaty must be ratified by the senate (two-thirds of it). Whatever executive agreements he makes on the side are his own, not to be ratified by anyone.

Into this pleasant negotiating atmosphere, Moscow has sent Molotov apparently with instructions not to lose. Behind him they are building up daily at home a belief that the United States and Britain are fascist or fascist-minded and that we want war. While these possibilities are both far from our thoughts, the Russian citizen is being made to believe them. They appear daily in his newspaper and Paul Mallon upon his radio. Behind the scenes Mr. Truman is on the other side of it. He does not know tactics. He believes always what is against us, and nothing favorable to us is printed in Russian newspapers.

Our people read the reports that the fascists are trying to bring on war is absurd, that our officials or people are fascist-minded or warlike is crazy. Not so to the Russians. They are being required to believe we are "Reasonable Fear" Undefined

Now what would you do in a case like this? Washington has asked itself, and responded: "Let us wait to see." The senate knows no more about negotiations than you. Congressmen are totally uninformed. Mr. Truman has not established his own expertise. Mr. Byrnes is just about the whole show. But Mr. Byrnes believes (or says he does) that the people he represents in the world want peace at what might be called any price (the word "reasonable" not being defined). This all our propaganda is directed toward hope in a peace, while all Russia's is devoted to creating suspicion of us. They play out of all proper proportions the activity of the Ku Klux Klan in Georgia, and otherwise seek faults to emphasize, conduct shootings around the world, charging we have secret agreements in China, are protecting fascism in Italy, Spain and Argentina, etc., and we foolishly ask ourselves: "Are we?" In short we seek justice, they seek suspicion.

City Zoning Commission Denies Change

(Story also on Page 1) The city planning and zoning commission last night denied a petition requesting a change from zone II to III that would permit the Lester DeLapp trucking service to establish facilities on property adjacent to the Paulus Bros. warehouse near Myrtle and Locust streets. City Engineer J. H. Davis said the petition signers represented only 43.3 per cent of the property.

City Attorney Lawrence Brown gave an opinion of illegal spot zoning in connection with the third request, that of Electric Cleaners for establishment of zone III in a 50 by 50 lot adjacent to their Highland avenue plant, to permit expansion.

When the Highland avenue district was zoned as residential, a business property already existed at the present site of Electric Cleaners, Brown explained, and now there is no zone III adjacent to the area of requested change. The commission, however, held the matter over to its next meeting in order to give the petitioners opportunity to appear.

the labor cause, readily assented to the amendment. Under this 1934 act criminal charges were brought against a teamster local in New York City and 28 individuals. They were charged with violating this law and interfering with interstate commerce in the movement of trucks from New Jersey to New York. Found guilty in the district court, the case came to the U.S. supreme court after a reversal in the circuit court of appeals. Jimmie Byrnes, then member of the supreme court, wrote the opinion sustaining the reversal and letting the union and its members go scot free. This was the most important opinion that Byrnes wrote during his brief tenure on the bench. He ruled that the 8-0 case within the exception of "bona fide employers" of bona fide employers.

Chief Justice Stone wrote a strong dissent, saying bluntly that the defendants "forced their way onto the trucks and by beating or threats of beating the drivers procured payment to themselves from the drivers or their employers of a sum equivalent to the union scale for one day's pay, \$9.42 for a large truck and \$8.41 for a small truck."

The Byrnes decision was scandalous as far as elemental justice was concerned, but such has been the political influence of the unions that congress hitherto failed to cure the defect in the law. Labor unions, in other words, were allowed to continue to operate with goon tactics unless state law interfered, as it did here in Oregon under Governor Martin.

The Case bill, which the president vetoed, included an amendment of the 1934 act making the offense of interfering with commerce "by robbery or extortion" a felony. The Hobbs bill which had passed the house before the Case bill was sent to the president, was passed by the senate after the latter was vetoed.

Labor unions cannot defend use of violence or extortion to advance their cause and make employment a union monopoly. The Hobbs bill will not injure unions in their proper operations and should protect them from the influx of lawless gangsters such as those who invaded Oregon in 1934.

ALL FOR THE BEST, by Bente Plagemann (Simon & Schuster, \$2.50). David Fortner, an upstanding young fellow, tells this story in the first person. He subscribes to noble ideas and principles which are supposed to be American, and he follows through thick and thin what is known as the American way of life, yet he is never conscious that what he professes contradicts what he does and experiences.

He sees caste in the navy, but won't believe his eyes. He believes Jews are all right, but can't stand them around. Women are of two kinds, like and unlike mother, and he sticks to that conviction though the girl he plans righteously to marry tries hard to jump off the pedestal on which he holds her. An Uncle Harry works at pounding some sense into him, but it goes in one ear and out the other.

"Candidate" was something of a model for this venture, and I can only wish this copy were closer to the original. It's a grand idea, but doesn't develop into a novel. Plagemann is not Voltaire, and this is a biting satire that doesn't bite.

IT'S UP TO US, by Harris Wofford, Jr. (Harcourt, Brace, \$2). The author of this book, 19-year-old founder of the Student Federalists, pleads most earnestly and effectively for world government as the alternative to World War III. Wofford acknowledges admiringly Clarence Streit's pioneering work, traces the history of the Federalists, who are now represented in many high schools and colleges, and in sum presents a challenge of youthful ardor and mature practicality.

INITIATE THE HEART, by Sister M. Maura (Macmillan, \$1.75). This sensitive poet has imagination, a fine ear for meter and rhyme, and an admirable economy with words.

AMERICAN LEGEND: A TREASURY OF OUR COUNTRY'S LIVES, selected by Robert and Dorothy Van Gelder (Appleton-Century, \$1.75). More than 500 pages by Welby, Melville, Wharton, West, Thomson, Richter, Thurber, Day, Mark Twain and others.

TRUE ENOUGH ABOUT CLOCKS AN EARLY POLISH CLOCK-MAKER SPENT 12 YEARS BUILDING A MASTERPIECE WHICH RAN 15 MONTHS ON ONE WINDING... OLD NUREMBERG GAVE THE WORLD ITS FIRST FOOT WATCH CALLED THE "NUREMBERG EGG"...

ONE OF THE OLDEST CLOCKS IN THE WORLD IS IN THE CLOCK TOWER OF VENICE WHERE IT HAS BEEN TICKING SINCE 1496.

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"I don't see why they can't argue like sensible individuals— Instead of like Nations!"

Public Records

PROBATE COURT Velveta W. Ohmart, estate; order directing further distribution of estate, and fifth account filed. Alverda Welch, estate; Order authorizing sale of personal property. Inga Westby, estate; Order approving and confirming sale of real property. Zola Lewis, an incompetent person; First account of guardian. Ernest Chester Rogers, estate; Final account filed.

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS Thomas M. Tandy, legal, apprentice plumber and Dorothy Whelan, legal, title examiner, both of Salem. Albert Roy Wolf, 19, farmer and Evelyn Ann Weigel, 18, domestic, both of Aumsville. Eugene Edmund Johnson, 22, millworker, Stayton and Mary Ann Bruder, 19, waitress, Mill City. Richard C. Owen, 19, service station and Ruby Carpenter, 18, domestic, both of Salem.

CIRCUIT COURT Howard William Watson vs Helen James Watson; Application to place on trial docket. Elvin F. Leisman dba Pacific Decorators and Supply company vs Mike Steinbock and Harry M. Steinbock dba Leonard's Supper club; Motions by plaintiff to strike.

Alice LaVerne Mohney vs Russell Alger Mohney, jr.; Order for dismissal based on plaintiff's motion. Gordon Bihl and William Bihl, partners dba Bihl Bros. Construction company vs Peter L. Cleary and Grace I. Cleary; Application to place on trial docket. Lorraine Green vs Lettie L. Loose, Bethine M. Loose and Rex Gibson as executors of the estate of Loren Loose, deceased; Order of dismissal of plaintiff's motion. Henry Nicoli Hall vs Beulah R. Hall; Complaint charges cruel and inhuman treatment, asks divorce and custody of four children. Married Dec. 12, 1931 at Fontanelle, Iowa.

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

DETROIT, June 27—(AP)—A short-lived tornado—the second in 11 days—swirled across the border today injuring at least nine persons and damaging property in Detroit and Windsor, Ont. There were no immediate reports of any fatalities. The twister apparently formed in Windsor, swung across the Detroit river and cut sharply through an industrial area of the American city. It spent its strength in about two hours.

Adm. Carter to Guard Fund

WASHINGTON, June 27—(AP)—The government today appointed Rear Admiral W. J. Carter, navy paymaster general, as custodian for the United Mine Workers' health and welfare fund, one of their biggest winnings from the recent strike. The first installment of the money, expected to amount to \$30,000,000 annually, is due from the mine operators August 15. Carter's appointment was announced by Vice Admiral Ben Moreell, federal administrator of the seized coal mines, as that national labor relations board made public a letter to him promising expedited action on unionization of foremen, another big issue in the dispute that brought about seizure. The operators had declined to recognize foremen's unions.

Morse Asserts GOP Loyalty

WASHINGTON, June 27—(AP)—Senator Morse (R-Ore) will not bolt the republican party no matter who is chosen for presidential candidate in 1948. Replying to a report that he might walk out of the GOP if the party nominee did not suit him, Morse declared such an action would conflict with his "conception of political ethics and loyalty to the liberal cause." "It is my position that no public official can make an ethical justification of running as a republican and then bolting his party because he may not find himself in full agreement with the nominee of this party," Morse said. "I feel that the only way to strengthen the republican party and fight for the liberal principles in which I believe is to do it within the republican party."

Monkey Strays From Environs

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, June 27—(AP)—Who would expect to be bitten by a roaming monkey in Alaska, of all places? Mrs. Art Larson of Anchorage thought it was a cat entering the room, until the monkey jumped up for a look in her mixing bowl. Surprised no end, she tried to shoo it away. The monkey wouldn't be shooed. It sank its teeth into Mrs. Larson's leg until her shriek put it to flight. The monkey came to Anchorage

Cut Off

MUNICIPAL COURT Joseph E. Albrich, jr., 1625 S. High st., violation of basic rule, fined \$10. Keith A. McKibben, route 1, Dallas, failure to stop; posted \$2.50 bail. V. H. Shay, High and South 23rd streets, charged with allowing vicious dog to run loose; posted \$5 bail.

Detroit Hit by New Tornado

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Poultry Group Asserts U. S. Hoarding Grain

CORVALLIS, Ore., June 27—(AP) Speakers at the annual meeting of the Oregon Baby Chick Association today asserted the government has been hoarding grain in terminal warehouses and elevators while the poultry industry went without. Fred Cockeril, Milwaukie, reported that on June 25 terminals in Portland, Longview and Vancouver contained 1,668,127 bushels of wheat and 30 to 50 additional cars were arriving daily. Foreign exports of wheat from the three ports totaled 23,718,966 bushels during the present crop year, he said. Nevertheless, he declared, only 50,000 bushels were released for Oregon feed to fill needs of nearly a million bushels. Paper Promises P. M. Brandt of Oregon State college said most of the relief feed slated for Oregon is still "paper promises." He said the state's feed dealers had ordered 494 carloads—194 for upstate points, but only 40 cars of grain had been received by June 25, with 30 more in transit.

F. E. Fox, Corvallis, was named president of the association; G. W. Avery, Tualatin, vice-president; George Gray, Corvallis, secretary-treasurer; Howard Hughes, Hillsboro, Kelly Comstock, Portland, and Gordon Boyington, Hood River, directors. Holdover directors are P. A. Gent, Eugene, and Don Anchors, Grants Pass.

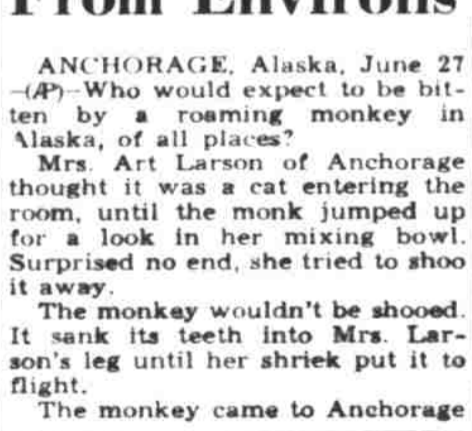
Federal Offices to Vacate Downtown Portland Buildings

PORTLAND, June 27—(AP)—Businessmen who can't find a spot to hang their hats will have 100,000 square feet of downtown office space if government plans go through. George Towsley, public building administrator, said federal agencies hoped to vacate that much space by Sept. 30. Government bureaus in the Bedell building, along with four other federal agencies, plan to move to Swan Island shipyard, he said. The transfer to Swan Island buildings follows a national policy to locate federal agencies in federally-owned structures.

OPA Lumber Suits Settled

(Story also on page 1) PHOENIX, Ariz., June 27—(AP)—Two of the three suits filed against Arizona lumber companies in the U.S. district court here yesterday by the district office of price administration were settled today by stipulated judgements. The suits filed here were among 40 filed against lumber firms in four western states. The district court here ordered the Otis E. Phillips company and the R. L. Alego company, both of Phoenix, to set forth on all invoices on all sales of softwood lumber a sufficiently complete description of the lumber to show whether prices are proper or not. The firms also were ordered to prepare to keep records showing complete descriptions of the items of lumber sold. The third OPA suit was filed against the Fish Lumber company of nearby Mesa and asks \$15,000 treble damages for alleged overcharges on about 400,000 feet of lumber. The case still is before the court.

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President Views Gift Fish



WASHINGTON, June 27—President Truman looks over a king salmon presented to him at the White House by Gov. Ernest H. Gruening (center) of Alaska. Secretary of Interior Julius Krug is at left. (AP Wirephoto).

Underground Parking Set

PORTLAND, Ore., June 27—(AP) The city council adopted a resolution today permitting private operators to establish an underground parking facilities in the downtown Plaza blocks. The city attorney was ordered to investigate use of the north and south park blocks for the same purpose. The action followed a Portland retail trade bureau recommendation for 1,700 cars in the Plaza blocks, opposite the county courthouse. Chloropicrin, the tear gas used in World War I, has been found a good preventative of elmworm damages to several crops.

STEVENS DIAMONDS WATCHES JEWELRY



14-K gold mountings displaying 6 radiant diamonds. Modest Prices. STEVENS & SON, 339 Court

with a resident returning from the states recently. It had escaped while tied outdoors. Anchorage launched the first monkey hunt in its history.

Los Angeles, June 27—William S. Hart, Jr., 24, only child of the late cowboy actor, was specifically disinherited. In Hart's will filed for probate today, "I have made no provision in this will for my son," he will said, "for the reason that I have amply provided for him during my lifetime." Last week young Hart lost a court fight over guardianship of his father's estate, valued at nearly \$1,000,000.