

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 23, 1851

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

The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this newspaper.

Satire on the USSR

There was the old song about going to the animal fair—the birds and the beasts were there; the baboon was combing his burn hair in the light of the moon; the monkey got drunk and ran up the elephant's trunk. That was sheer fun. A divertissement to different point is George Orwell's "Animal Farm." Beasts and birds are there, whose antics are both surprising and bewildering, but the purpose is not merely entertainment. "Animal Farm" is a satire on the USSR, which Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. in a New York Times book review calls "a wise, compassionate and illuminating fable for our times," which "should be read in particular by liberals who still cannot understand why Soviet performance has fallen so far behind communist professions."

The narrative is quite simple. The animals on Mr. Jones' farm listened to a white boar named Major who preached subversive doctrine, blaming their poor estate on Man who stole the produce of their labor and left them barely enough to eat. He taught them a song "Beasts of England" which hailed the golden future time when Tyrant Man would be overthrown and great riches of clover, beans and mangle-wurzels would be theirs without stint.

The beasts finally rebel, under the leadership of two pigs, Napoleon and Snowball, and drove Jones the farmer off his place. Seven Commandments of the new order were painted on the barn. The pigs assumed leadership, particularly Napoleon. The satire then recites how one by one the commandments were modified, with always some advantage taken by the pigs. The latter had a pack of toothy dogs to implement their dictation. Snowball was driven off the farm and instead of being regarded as the hero, first-class, of the battle of the cowshed, he became known as a traitor, a real tool of Mr. Jones. Whenever there was a murmur of dissent among the animals Squealer silenced it by saying: "Surely, comrades, you don't want Mr. Jones back."

The revolution of the animals underwent an internal revolution, with all the commandments boiled down to one: "All animals are equal but some are more equal than others." One evening the barnyard animals noted that human beings had come to the manor house. They looked in at the window and saw a party in progress with Napoleon sitting at the head of the tables with men and pigs occupying the other seats. A neighbor farmer made a speech in which he said the fears of the humans over the Animal Farm experiment had been allayed. In fact he remarked that the lower animals did more work on Animal Farm and received less food than any animals in the county. Napoleon responded in like spirit. The disillusioned animals outside noted changes in the faces of the pigs. They "looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which."

The cycle had turned full wheel—to the compliment neither of pigs or man.

One familiar with the history of USSR can readily identify the characters: Napoleon is Stalin, Snowball Trotsky, Hitler is one of the neighbor farmers; the dogs were the NKVD of Animal Farm. The parallel fails however in this, that while the soviet government has abandoned many of its original principals it is not yet receiving to its bosom the "farmers" of the west.

As satire the book is delicious, heart-warming for the foe of the communist revolution. But satire rarely converts opponents, it merely confirms the logic or the prejudice of those in whose cause it is invoked. Orwell himself is a British socialist, and so is deeply antagonistic to the Russian brand of communism. The interchangeable character of pigs and men may be the real point of Orwell's story; but perhaps of greater pith is the query of Squealer: "Surely, comrades, you don't want Jones back."

That question deserves to be raised. The comment which usually silences the critics of the soviet experiment is, Well, the people in Russia are much better off than they were under the tsars. We wonder if they are, actually, either in food, clothing, shelter or in political liberties. A more speculative question is this: Are the Russian people as well off under the communist experiment than they would have been under a continued tsarist government as it surely would have been moderated. The latter question lies beyond answer. Even the former question would be difficult to answer for lack of authentic and impartial criteria. As far as political liberty goes there was more of it under the czars than it present. While many old revolutionists were arrested and sent to Siberia many were allowed to return, many escaped. One never hears today of an active revolutionist against the soviet regime who survives, let alone escapes. We are confident that Russia would have fared better if the moderates of the 1917 revolution had retained power.

"Animal Farm" does an effective job of showing the sabotage that any system suffers from human (or animal) nature. That ought to give pause to those who urge us to fly from present evils without concern for the evils we know not of which follow the change. Like the title of another small book: "Pigs In Pigs." We can't get away from that fact.

Politics and Beef

Beef certainly has gotten into politics. The worried democrats have pleaded with the president to decontrol meat, obviously out of fear of political reprisals next November. The democratic national committee asked its chairman Bob Hannegan to intercede with President Truman for decontrol, and Congressman McCormack, majority leader of the house, appealed for lifting price controls on meat for 90 days—till well after the election. President Truman scorned the pleas and Hannegan announced he would stand right with his chief—no Madison Square Garden escape for him.

This time President Truman is right in adhering to price control. Eliminating it might bring more beef to market immediately—at a price; but it would reduce supplies later on. With the huge grain crop and lowered feed prices raising cattle and hogs for meat will be highly profitable at present ceiling prices. The public can worry through its present short meat rations with some confidence that supplies will increase within a few months. That hope may not be enough to bail out the democrats in November, but their ship was floundering in heavy seas anyway.

Gardeners who gripe over the depredations of seedcorn digging pheasants should shut up when they learn what flocks of ducks and geese are going to the fields of ripe barley in the Tulelake country. Farmers down there are looking for a Pied Piper who can lure away or frighten away their feathered "friends."

James B. Carey, national secretary of the CIO, told the Oregon CIO convention to back a foreign policy based on the Atlantic charter and the United Nations. Very good counsel. Too bad President Roosevelt deserted the Atlantic Charter for the great appeasement. Its four freedoms however need one addition: the right to work.

Gerald L. K. Smith has given out a list, headed by Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi, of senators he endorses for election. Some will fear that is a kiss of death. Unfortunately not Bilbo, however.

Paul Mallon's BEHIND THE NEWS

(Distribution by Kings Features Syndicate, Inc. Reproduction in whole or in part strictly prohibited.)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—No one around the state department knew what to say about Stalin's ultra-exclusive statement on the world situation in the London Sunday Times, and for several days no one said anything. The experts were chasing commas behind the scenes for hidden meanings. Some unofficial comma chasers announced they thought the interview marked rapid progress toward better understanding between the two nations, but officialdom seemed waiting for action on the part of the Russians to say more definitely what its real import would turn out to be.

The administration has been supersensitively on the subject of Russia since the Wallace affair. In this connection, Under-secretary of State Dean Acheson, who has been fishing for some weeks in Canada, is said to have come down to his news stand there and have noticed a headline on the Wallace speech whereupon he immediately went back fishing for two more weeks. The story is not guaranteed by me, but actually the under-secretary remained longer at his secret fishing hideout than he had expected.

Clayton Said Nothing. During Acheson's absence, Mr. Byrnes' good friend William Clayton, assistant, was in active charge and he said nothing even off the record to the newsmen in press conferences. Thus cautious, reluctant or dismayed was the administration at the high-pressure developments no doubt concocted for effect upon the Paris meeting.

As a matter of fact, however, during these high tension days the administration comforted itself in part at least, with the expectation that the Paris gathering would be over by October 15 and all would be ready for the gathering of the United Nations assembly on October 23rd as scheduled. But to what extent the negotiations at Paris would be successful, they were not able to offer any expert advice. From the little bits of information like the Stalin speech, the Finnish treaty and other published matters, they judged that the situation was subject to severe controversy. The precise nature of the situation was somewhat like the reactions of the analysts on the Stalin interview.

Stalin said he had no fear of war, but said nothing about the size of his army which was put at 6,000,000 men in the last public announcement from Moscow on the subject, last June. His feeling that there would not be any war was, therefore, somewhat left in confusion by the last announced martial preparations of his government. So the answers seemed to be "yes" and "no." Certainly the atmosphere had not been cleared as much as an announcement by Stalin would have cleared it. If he had said he was cutting the size of our. Thus also, he accused agents of other nations of waving war flags for propaganda effect on the conference, but earlier pronouncements of his government had directly charged that a capitalistic movement of encirclement was being threatened against the Soviet union. Here again "yes" and "no."

So the final answer seemed likely to rest upon the extent to which the demands for liberalization of the big four treaties by the 21 nations at Paris would be carried forward, what solutions would be made on perplexing problems like the opening of the Danube river for instance, and in the various other fields of differences left unsolved by the big four meetings,—in short, in the texts of the agreements themselves.

Final Texts Awaited. Thus whether Russia is weakening or has reached a more conciliatory mood, or is merely attempting to affect the outcome of the conference by more sly propaganda, were questions still unresolved from the vortex of both affirmative and negative evidence, with people here outside of official life not taking much interest in the flow of the pressures but ready to await a final decision and texts from the peace makers. Then, at least, they would have something upon which to base a sound analysis of the meaning of current puzzling events.

Pressure times are bad times in which to reach commonsense conclusions.



Pilgrim's Progress

The Safety Valve LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

IMPRESSIONS BY DRY
SENTIMENT

To the Editor:
An analysis by the Marion County Dry Committee of the rejected signatures submitted on the Local Option Liquor Election petitions revealed that a large number of names were disqualified because of persons who, having changed residences, had not reregistered.

Any further consideration of these doubtful signatures would involve court action due to the differences of opinion on the legal points involved. In-as-much as the impossibility of getting the measure on the ballot due to the time limitation is apparent, and the committee is composed of volunteers from many Christian churches and organizations, and is not a political party, court action was deemed inadvisable.

The committee was impressed by the expressions of "dry" sentiment and the dissatisfaction with the present liquor control in the county that was shown by the more than 3900 signatures obtained on the petitions.

The committee wishes to extend hearty thanks to all who assisted in obtaining signatures and to those who generously gave their services as notaries.

George M. Martin, Secretary-Treasurer on behalf of the entire committee.

Volunteers Asked To Aid in Sale of Forget-Me-Nots

"You can thank the disabled veteran for his sacrifice," the DAV Commander Charles Peterson said Saturday, "by purchasing a forget-me-not and helping to underwrite a vital service program for the disabled veterans of this community. The forget-me-nots will be available on Salem streets next Friday and Saturday."

Volunteers for the sale are being sought by Mrs. Verne Osterlander. Organizations offering their service are the Gold Star Mothers of America, American War Mothers, Daughters of Union Veterans, Woman's Relief Corps, Royal Neighbors, Salem Deaconess hospital Auxiliary, Young Matrons Club, Daughter of Catholic, Grand Army of Republic. Any girl over ten years of age may volunteer.

Mrs. Stuart Johns and Mrs. A. L. Brewster are in charge of window decorations.

decision and texts from the peace makers. Then, at least, they would have something upon which to base a sound analysis of the meaning of current puzzling events.

Pressure times are bad times in which to reach commonsense conclusions.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

were great or near-great, yet differed from another "in glory" as well as in other attributes. Probably all would yield preeminence in fame to the one in whose honor they had assembled; for others the public has made its own measure of prestige.

The glory of greatness is relative. The sun is not the greatest or brightest of the stars but it is our sun, giving us light and heat and in our estimation far surpasses in glory distant Arcturus or Vega. Likewise a small flashlight is of greater immediate value in the search for a lost coin or key than all the illumination of the Milky Way. In reverse the greatness that emerges in the foreshortened stage of Oregon in a given span of years pales on the scale of the world's breadth in space and its depth in time.

The modern gospel of democracy sometimes seems to ignore the simple truth that St. Paul uttered. The leveling tendency, fired sometimes by envy, overlooks the native variations among individuals. The ordinary is exalted; the extraordinary is reduced. Yet human life and progress depend in high degree on the quality and capacity of its leaders. The quest always should be for men and women of superior talents to set the pace and chart the course which those of lesser skills and abilities may follow. Democracy rightly applied breaks the shackles of handicap and removes the advantage of privilege so that individuals are free to strive and to attain up to the measure of their powers. In this competition some will achieve little and are wise if they smother jealousy and admit with Cassius: "The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,"

But in ourselves, that we are underlings." Others with a consciousness of their strength may feel as did the younger William Pitt when he said: "I know that I can save England and that no one else can."

One star differs from another, and the magnitude of each determines its glory. Individuals differ likewise, and their fame varies as widely as the glow of the myriad stars. The end however, is the Ultimate Democracy of Death: "The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power, All that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave, Await at last the inevitable hour The paths of glory lead but to the grave."

SLENDERIZE

Scientific Diet
Slenderizing Machine
Slenderizing
Therapeutic Massage
Elsie Dachler Wilson
Medically Trained
Ph. 5731 Rm. 15 241 N. Liberty

For Thorough, Reliable Auto Body and Fender Work USE **LODER BROS.**

SERVICE
You can depend upon our body shop to turn out work on your car that you can be proud of.

LODER BROS.
OLDSMOBILE
SALES AND SERVICE
465 Center St. - Ph. 6133-5467
18th Street in Salem

Silverton Policeman Given Walking Papers Without Explanation

SILVERTON — City Manager Robert Borland has notified Police Officer E. W. O'Brien that his services will not be needed after September 30. O'Brien, who came on the police force last February, has since been appointed constable and will continue in that capacity, he said. No reason for his dismissal was stated in the letter.

O'Brien has opened an office in the Hosmer building on South Water street from where he plans to operate as constable. Later his father-in-law, H. D. Secord of Redfield, S.D. will share the space with him and conduct an insurance business. Mr. and Mrs. Secord are now in Eugene and have visited here a number of times.

YOU CAN HAVE
THE STATESMAN
WITH YOU FOR
The School Year for \$4.00

In the belief that many college students, now away or soon leaving for their school year, would like to take The Daily and Sunday Statesman with them, we are making available an eight-months subscription at any college or university in the United States for \$4.00. We must set a reasonable limit to the number of such subscriptions, in view of the still-very-acute paper shortage but we believe our young citizens are well entitled to every consideration we can extend to them.

The Oregon Statesman
Your Home Newspaper

NOW at STEVENS

Imperial Pearls
CULTURED PEARLS

HEIRLOOMS OF TOMORROW
for the Bride of Today

Imperial cultured pearls in solid gold settings
... exquisite necklaces, earrings, and rings with each pearl perfectly round and flawless. Registered and insured ... a prized gift now, and treasured more each time it is worn.

Just a Suggestion — Buy Now for Christmas
Use Our Lay-Away Plan — Or Just Say "Charge It"

Store Hours
9:30 to 5:30

339 Court
Salem

Need New Tires? Remember This: The New
B.F. GOODRICH SILVERTOWN
OUTWEARS PREWAR TIRES

Wider, Flatter Tread Shares the Wear

Shipments of the new B.F. Goodrich Silvertown are arriving regularly, and we may have your size. But there's more demand for some tire brands than others, and the big extra demand is for Silvertown, the tire that outwears prewar tires—even at high speeds. There's a reason! The B. F. Goodrich Silvertown is a better tire. It gives extra miles of service because

its new tread design is wider, flatter and runs more rubber on the road. More and stronger cords support this tread—give it extra resistance to bruising and blow-outs. Please check your needs well in advance. Talk to us. We'll do our best to keep your car rolling until we can get new tires for you.

16 ¹⁰/₁₆

Earl Strausbaugh, Mgr.
198 S. Commercial Salem Phone 9156

Can be bought on Small Down Payment and Convenient Terms

Earl Strausbaugh, Mgr.
198 S. Commercial Salem Phone 9156

B.F. Goodrich
FIRST IN RUBBER

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"Well—this is the 'bridge' you said we'd cross when we get to it!"