

The Oregon Statesman

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

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

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Honor to Leon Blum

It must have been a dramatic moment in the new national assembly of France when Leon Blum was elected premier and president of the new Republic. Former premier, during the days of the Front Populaire, a socialist who has seen his party's strength fade lately through desertions to left and to right, still ailing from his long confinement as a prisoner of Germany, his election was largely a personal tribute. He will serve only a month, for in January the assembly is to elect the new president of France who will in turn nominate the premier.

Blum alone of the premiers of the Third Republic has returned to power. The only other one to retain his high standing is the venerable Edouard Herriot, mayor of Lyons and member of the assembly, although Reynaud was seated as a member over opposition. Blum as premier in 1936 was unable to unify France in the face of the rising menace of Hitler. The "200 families" opposed his government of leftist parties. He himself failed in certain crises—notably the Spanish revolution and the sit-down strikes in French industries. Nevertheless Blum is esteemed for his intellectual attainments, for his fine character and his devotion to principle.

Surprised at this action of the assembly in drawing him, an old man with little time left to live, back into the seat of power touched the long-time leader of the French socialists deeply and tears coursed down his cheeks. Others in the assembly were probably also deeply moved. Could it be that in the deep animosities of radicals of left and right, in the rivalries for place and power the deputies found a release of their tensions when they chose one distinguished for his heart as well as his mind? In honoring the old Blum they honored the France that might have been and perhaps sowed some seed of a France to be.

Columbians, Inc.

Exposure by authorities in Georgia of the ambition of Columbians, Inc. to set up their own dictatorship of the United States and drive out the negroes and Jews makes one laugh rather than shiver. After all the 140,000,000 people of the United States insist on having something to say about who runs the country and no insignificant group of 500 is going to "take over." Having spent \$100 billions and poured out much blood to lick Hitler and Mussolini Americans are in no mood to have litigation cases pop up in this country.

The Columbians are not a political threat; instead they are a psychological curiosity. They are of the type whose prejudices get the better of their reasoning faculties. Somehow they have built up such hatreds against Jews and negroes that their thinking machinery has become toxic. So they go to the absurdity of a uniform and an emblem and the incipient fol-de-rol of an "organization" and dark plots of revolution.

The woods are full of people with similar quirks. They may be just "ticked" on matters like religion, or they may have brains twisted on politics or economics. Rarely are they as violent in propagating their notions as the Columbians. Usually they are just intolerable bores, harmless and foolish.

It is well to scotch at the beginning outfits confessing revolutionary aims, but there is no need to get panicky over the self-started cults propagating prejudices. After all there is a great residuum of common sense in the American people, and what is perhaps equally valuable, a good measure of humor. They can laugh off or shrug off—or if necessary kick off—the KKKs, the silver shirts, the bunds, the Columbians—who aspire to power by the ladder of prejudice.

"Operation MOP"

Credit President Truman with alertness to the election returns. After gamely fighting to save price controls he bowed to the gale and accelerated orders relaxing them. Thursday he moved to sweep into one heap numerous war agencies, putting Maj. Gen. Philip B. Fleming, old head of federal works, in charge. The president's order terminates the office of war mobilization and reconversion, the office of economic stabilization, vests the remnant of OPA in a new office of temporary controls. Other war agencies are due to expire by congressional limitation or subsequent presidential order.

We had a big war, mobilized a big country to fight it. The war is over, civilian life is returning rapidly to peacetime activity. "Operation MOP" is the order of the day both at home and abroad.

Walter Reuther of the CIO-UAW demands a wage increase of 23.5 cents an hour for his union, saying it is necessary to "restore to the workers in our industry what has been taken from them by the rise in the cost of living since the beginning of the war." Who took it from them in 1946 will probably take another increase from them in 1947. Labor loses in the inflationary spiral. Further wage-price increases in automobile manufacture takes new cars "away" from more people.

An Indian has had his claim to valuable land at Palm Springs, California, sustained by a court, which may open the way to other Indians to claim lands at this resort. Many people who have visited there wonder why it was taken from the Indians in the first place.

The new Washington state license plates are poor. They are of aluminum with letters and numerals in green, and are hard to read in night lighting. The background should have had a color contrasting with the green of the raised characters.

Editorial Comment

From Our Contemporaries

WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY GOES GREEK
Just about now the campus is a busy place at our nearby Willamette university. For the first time in Willamette's century of existence it is installing men's national Greek-letter fraternities. These of the largest national fraternities, Phi Delta Theta, Beta Theta Pi and Sigma Chi, have all granted charters at Willamette. President Smith of Willamette is himself a national officer of the Beta Pi and has personally added this star, as he deems it, to the crest of the oldest university west of the Rockies.

In some ways it's a credit to old Willamette to have this recognition. These three fraternities don't pass out their charters indiscriminately, and there is an implied recognition of Willamette's progress in this event.

But in general the day of the Greek fraternity is passing. In numerous eastern universities, long known as strongholds of fraternities, interest among the students has faded to the point of disappearing. Among Greek societies, the mature students of today, especially the returned servicemen and women, find the fraternity spirit too sophomoric for their adult tastes. Moreover, a growing democratic sense has marked the fraternities as centers of snobbery and social-climbing, so that "Independents" and "Co-op Houses" have more and more gained the ascendancy on many campuses.

Thirty years ago this event would indeed have been a feather in Willamette's cap—now we doubt whether the week marks any genuine advance in the great history of what is perhaps our valley's finest private university.

And lest some offended Greek denounce the editor as a grouch and sore-head who probably was turned down by some fraternity, let us hasten to add that this editorial opinion stems from six years' experience as a member of an old-time national fraternity on two campuses, and as its one-time president.

So here's to the Phi Deltas, Betas and Sigma Chis who now adorn Willamette's campus! May Alma Mater find them not to great a hindrance to her main job of educating a thousand young Oregonians in the way of life of a democracy whose basic document still begins "We believe that all men are created free and equal..." —Molalla Pioneer.

State Employees Air Plan for 40-Hour Week

Arguments favoring a 40-hour week for Oregon state employees were aired before Gov. Earl Snell Friday, following which the governor told workers' spokesmen that reaction of the board of control would not be expressed until after a conference with Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr. Although the state civil service board makes final determination of work hours, yesterday's hearing before the board of control was conducted in order to solicit the opinions of Snell, Farrell and State Treasurer Leslie Scott. Farrell, out of town, was absent from the meeting.

Accomplish More Work
An assertion that the state workers would accomplish more work in a five-day 40-hour week, instead of the 5 1/2-day 44-hour week most of them now work, was made by Paul R. Walker, organizer for the state, county and municipal employees' federation. He said his opinion was based on a study of state department chiefs and on actual results in Multnomah and some other counties.

In a few state departments which are compelled by law to keep open six days a week, Walker said, crews could be staggered without any material increase in cost to the state.

His remarks were approved by J. T. Marr, executive secretary, Oregon State Federation of Labor, who advised the control board that the city of Portland was in sympathy with the 40-hour week. "I believe a shorter work week will improve the morale of state employees and increase production," Marr declared.

Institutions Problem
The problem of reducing work hours for state workers at the state institutions, which now operate on a 54 to 60 hours a week basis, could be worked out later, speakers said.

Forrest Stewart, executive secretary of the Oregon State Employees association, said he was convinced that the shorter work week would operate in the best interests of the state government.

Stockmen's Meet Closed With Banquet

(Story also on page 1)
Western Oregon Livestock convention closed Friday night with a banquet at the Marion hotel with W. C. Leth, Polk county agent, as toastmaster. Brief unscheduled talks were made by visiting livestock men as well as the newly elected officers. Special features included music by KGW's Men About Town, and Meisenger Studio Girl Quartet.

While "the 1947 depression has been well advertised," it does not follow that it will be a precipitous drop or that it will effect every part of the country or every type of industry, C. A. Sprague, former governor of Oregon, said in his Friday morning address before the group. He concluded that the country would work down from inflation gradually and that price falls would be "spotted," citing the flax and flibert industries as recent price recessions while other articles had felt no drop as yet.

Common Sense in Business
That prospects for the Pacific coast are good because of the increased consuming markets brought about by the increase in population, was the opinion of the speaker. He recommended common sense in relation to all business and urged livestock producers to watch their costs and guard against excessive use of credit.

Prosser Clark, secretary of the North Portland Livestock exchange, claimed that one-half million dollars annually could be gained by Oregon livestock producers by use of central markets. He urged "more marketing and less selling."

Walter Holt manager of the Pacific International Livestock exposition, another morning speaker, called attention to the substantially higher 1947 premium lists at that show and urged Oregon "to keep the PI a better show than that at the Cow Palace." He also cited the need for a junior building, a concrete stadium, and better sleeping quarters for exhibitors.

Demolition Affects Grounds
Whereas, Holt reported, an improvement condition following army occupation at the Portland show, Leo Spitzbart, manager of the state fair, claimed "the army's four years of demolition practice on the fair grounds" would take many a year to heal. He also expressed hope for increased premiums for 1947. He opposed the setting back of fair dates to later September as being too close to the Pacific International dates as well as "threatening to spoil the livestock show at the fair, which is definitely an outdoor show. Late September would be too cold and too wet."

A standing vote of thanks was voiced to Marion and Polk county associations, hosts and the Salem chamber of commerce.

EARTHQUAKE RECORDED
CORVALLIS, Dec. 13—(P)—The Oregon State college seismograph recorded a slight earthquake at 5:23 a. m. today. Officials said it appeared no farther than 350 miles away, probably occurring on the ocean's floor.

Only one of the six Minnesota football coaches did not attend the university.

GRIN AND BEAR IT



"It seems funny you can so clearly picture yourself in the poor-house—but can't visualize me in that!"

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page 1)

block apart, assuming the present bridge is retained, as it should be, and the traffic streams of the two bridges would quickly flow together at both ends.

It was Hedges Swart, county engineer, who proposed the Division street location, which is two blocks north of Marion street. The highway would head west in West Salem between the railroad and the hills, joining the present highway at the point of the hills southwest of the town. This route would be above high water, which now cuts off the bridge on occasion. It would have no grade crossings of the railroad. On this side the front street railroad would be overpassed by the bridge approach.

Northbound traffic could turn from Division on Liberty or High streets without coming into the city, and southbound traffic would be advisable to make a cut-off from Commercial or Broadway to the Fairgrounds road to give a straight chute into the Portland road.

Costs are important to consider, and comparisons will be made before the decision is made. But the Division street location satisfies certain elements of the situation which will justify higher costs. The advantages may be summarized thus:

1. The bridges several blocks apart will be provided, the old bridge to be taken over by the city.
2. No railroad grade crossings.
3. Easy flow of traffic to and off both ends of the bridge.
4. No interruption due to floods.
5. Old bridge preserved to serve local traffic on Edgewater and Front streets.
6. Minimum disruption of existing commercial structures.

The planning commission's role is advisory only, but it submits its recommendation with real confidence in its merit.

40 et 8 Due For Yule Party

Members of 40 et 8, fun organization of the American Legion, will begin arriving this morning in Salem for the annual state 40 et 8 Christmas party at 6 o'clock tonight in Legion hall. Ira Picher, grand chef de guerre, announced yesterday.

More than 1,300 invitations have been sent throughout the state and dignitaries from Idaho, Washington and California will attend.

A chartered train car load of 40 et 8 members will arrive at 10 a. m. from Kalamath Falls. The Alley Cats, a 25-piece orchestra, will be a special added feature from the Portland voice. Business meetings will begin Saturday afternoon.

L. V. Benson is general chairman of the affair; B. E. Owens, associate chairman; Stanley Krueger is chairman of the food committee; Waldo Mills, refreshments; Walter Kirk, distinguished guests.

Births

HARDING—To Mr. and Mrs. George Harding, Monmouth, a daughter, Friday, December 13, at Salem General hospital.

HOLMES—To Mr. and Mrs. Dean Holmes, Sheridan, a daughter, Friday, December 13, at Salem General hospital.

LUKE—To Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Luke, 1615 S. Commercial dr., a son, Friday, December 13, at Salem General hospital.

BRENENSTAHL—To Mr. and Mrs. Brenenstahl, 1096 S. 22nd st., a son, Friday, December 13, at Salem Deaconess hospital.

UNRUH—To Mr. and Mrs. Robert Unruh, West Salem, a daughter, Friday, December 13, at Salem Deaconess hospital.

GOHL—To Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gohl, Stayton, a daughter, Friday, December 13, at Salem Deaconess hospital.

BOEDDIGHIMER—To Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Boeddighimer, Stayton, a son, Friday, December 13, at Salem Deaconess hospital.

By Lichty



"It seems funny you can so clearly picture yourself in the poor-house—but can't visualize me in that!"

New Cub Scout Pack Formed at Ballston

A new scout cub pack formed at Ballston this week in the Polk district has as its cubmaster, Ezra Kilmer, the Salem scout officer reported Friday. The pack is sponsored by the Ballston Odd Fellows lodge.

Chairman of the pack committee is Charles F. Kadell of Ballston. Other members include Dee Mellema and John Koch of Sheridan, Virginia Kilmer is den mother.

Public Records

MUNICIPAL COURT
Bernard J. Ammins, violation of the base rule, fined \$7.50.
Ernest Wilson, 1338 Reservoir st., parking warrant, fines \$4.50.
Oswald Grodz, 2060 E. Church st., parking violation, fined \$3.
Ethel M. McBeth, Salem, parking violation, fined \$4.
Ralph W. Johnson, 333 Center st., parking warrant, fines paid \$5.
Charles A. Dean, 70 Duncan st., parking warrant, fines \$7.50.
G. A. Benson, Portland road, parking violation, fined \$2.
Frank P. Marshall, 425 N. 18th st., parking violations, fined \$4.50.
Walter E. Stearns, 140 N. 17th st., parking warrant, fines \$10.50.
H. A. and W. A. Smith, 2151 S. Win. or St. Vincent, parking violation, fined \$3.
F. E. Needham, 1000 McGilchrist st., parking violation, fined \$3.
John C. Schneider, 324 State st., parking warrant, fines \$28.50.

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS
Gael Cutsforth, 27 farmer, and Leonard Keppinger, 22, clerk, both of Gresham.
Henry A. Bilke, 44, cannery worker, and Emma M. Overgard, 46, domestic, both of Salem.

PROBATE COURT
Margaret Dalrymple estate: Order amends petition for appointment of the administrator by adding names of relatives.
John E. Norton estate: January 17 date set for hearing on final account.
John Sheehan estate: D. K. O'Connell administrator, files supplemental inventory showing cash assets of \$600.
Frederic C. Ewing estate: Estate appraised at \$250.
Alice M. Culhane estate: January 12 date set for hearing on final account.
William Harry Bowers estate: January 12 date set for hearing on final account.
Charlotte Adele Schwab, Louis Eleanor Schwab and other Trustee as executor of the estate of Edward Schwab guardian estate: Order approves annual report of Eleanor Schwab guardian.

X-ray Clinic \$5.00 Examination

Blood pressure—Iridiagnosis—spinal analysis—case history X-ray reading for cause of illness for one week only. We are including a colonic flush so you can experience without charge the only true correction for gas pressure.

A real safeguard against abdominal disturbances.

Week of December 16 to 21, inclusive.

MORIGHT HEALTH SERVICE
158 South Cottage Street
Salem, Oregon
Phone 8197

For Men Only

Here are a few Christmas Suggestions for the Little Woman

- Down-Filled Outdoor Jackets
- Ladies' Plaid Shirts
- Golf Bags
- Golf Cart

Badminton Set
Tennis Rackets
The New Thermo-Toter
Skiing Equipment
Fishing Rods and Reels

Barb's Sporting Goods

290 N. Front Street, Salem
"Salem's Finest Sporting Goods Store"
Between Court and Chemeketa on Front Street

Farm Equipment Store to Open on Silverton Road

Thomas "Tom" McNeill, formerly manager of the Interstate Tractor and Equipment Co. store in Roseburg, will take charge of the firm's newest unit at 3055 Silverton road in Salem, the formal opening of which is scheduled for February. The store, now operating, supplies and services the Caterpillar, John Deere and other lines.

The firm was granted a building permit by the city engineer's office yesterday for a new machine storage shed to be built at the new store. Estimated cost of construction was placed at \$5,500.

McNeill was with Caterpillar Tractor Co. after his graduation from Whitman college until the time he joined the Interstate organization in 1941. He will be aided by Fred Stettin, assistant manager, and a staff of 32 persons. McNeill lives with his wife and two children at 540 Rose st.

Lee Ohmart to Head Salem Realty Board

Lee Ohmart, local real estate broker, was unanimously elected president of the Salem Board of Realtors Friday night at the Marion hotel, and C. W. Bartlett was chosen as 1947 president. He will be aided by Fred Stettin, assistant manager, and a staff of 32 persons. McNeill lives with his wife and two children at 540 Rose st.

Old English Carol Service

Sunday, Dec. 15, 7:45 P. M.
First Evangelical United Brethren Church
Where Marion crosses Summer
Welcome to our growing Sunday School — 9:45 A. M.
"SACRIFICING THE COSTLY"
11:00 A. M. Worship Service
The Contata-Pagant "PILGRIMS TO BETHEHEM"
will be presented Sunday, Dec. 22 at 7:45 P. M.
Wilmer Brown, Minister — George K. Millen, Associate

Portland Air Base Declared Surplus

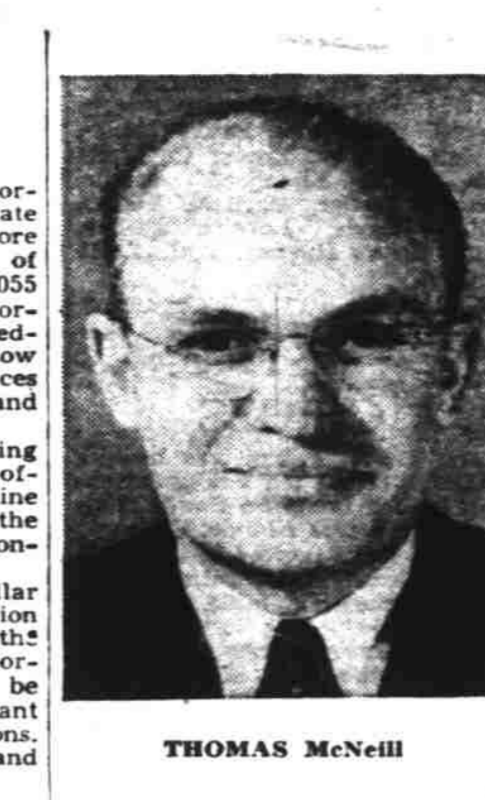
WASHINGTON, Dec. 13—(AP)—Aides of Senator Gordon (R-Ore.) said today that the army air base at Portland, Ore., has been declared surplus to the needs of the war department. The city will be given an opportunity to acquire the flying field, they said, but approximately 50 buildings and shops are being retained for use by the air national guard and the air reserve.

Christmas Carol Service

BY THE SANCTUARY CHOIR with Solos Duets Trios Quartets
Josephine Albert Spaulding - Soloist
Victor Palmason - Director Josef Schneider - Organist
Monday 7:30 p. m.
"THE NATIVITY"
As seen by Great Artists' Christmas Carols
Thursday 7:30 p. m. - Carrier Room
Tuesday, December 24
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 11:00 p. m.

The First Methodist Church

Joseph M. Adams, D.D., Minister
The Downtown Church - The Tall White Spire



THOMAS McNeill

GOOD MORNING

"Satan's Bid for a soul: worldly pleasure for a season—death—eternal despair—Going—Going—Gone!"
"What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul." Mark 8:36.
MARION COUNTY SUNDAY SCHOOLS



Manicure Sets

In beautiful cases. Triple-edge file, scissors, buffer. Convenient and complete.

Divided Payments 17.50 up



OLD ENGLISH CAROL SERVICE

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Welcome to our growing Sunday School — 9:45 A. M.
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will be presented Sunday, Dec. 22 at 7:45 P. M.
Wilmer Brown, Minister — George K. Millen, Associate

Morning Worship 10:55

THE SERMON
Toward Maturity
Chester W. Hamblin, Pastor
Sacred Christmas Music by the vested Choir
In the Evening, at 7:30
Charles A. Sprague
A report of the recent meeting of the Federal Council of Churches.
Church School, 9:45 a. m.
Classes for all ages
Nursery for children whose parents attend morning services.
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Chemeketa at Winter

"Your Town's" First Church

PUTTING CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

"The Announcement of God"
Sunday 11:00 a. m.

"The Christmas Story in Picture and Music"
Sunday 6:30 p. m.

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