

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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Business, Small and Big

Marquis Childs, one of the better Washington columnists, is worried over Big Business getting Bigger. He calls attention to corporation mergers, which often consist of big corporations absorbing smaller ones. That has been a peculiar phenomenon of the postwar period. Many small outfits burgeoned during the war. Their bosses made a pile of money; they fear or are unprepared for competitive business, and so sell out for a fat price and retire. The big corporation gets a thriving plant which it can use or a concern with which it can diversify its line.

Childs points out how this performance makes an easy setup for national socialism. If industry gets into hands of a few big concerns government can simply move in, take them over and dominate the whole economy. He credits Senator Joseph O'Mahoney of Wyoming with leading a brave, but so far unsuccessful fight, against monopoly which carries just this threat of ultimate socialism.

One factor that Childs touches on which encourages this current trend is the tax structure. With a heavy inheritance tax to pay the heirs of a family-owned business may have to liquidate it to pay the taxes. The owner himself might prefer to sell to some young men, perhaps those associated with him in building up the business. But they would have to pay for it out of the profits of the business. With heavy corporation and personal income taxes paying for a business now becomes a difficult matter. The owner finds it much easier to sell to the big corporation which can pay the cost out of its treasury and if it needs more money can negotiate a loan at a low rate of interest.

Another thing which induces owners of small corporations to sell out is the labor problem. They get tired of the haggling and strain of labor negotiations with the accompanying fears of strikes and labor troubles. Not much can be done to mitigate that under present conditions; but it does dispose an owner to give up the fight, if he can do so at a comfortable profit.

It is going to be hard to buck this trend to bigness among corporations. An easing of the tax burdens and some relief on the labor front would be helpful in enabling small corporations to remain small and independent.

Oil and Politics

Governor Earl Warren of California touched a spark to the recent price increase for gasoline announced by Standard of California, the third price increase since the war. Warren has a particular peeve with the oil companies because they have been fighting his recommendation for an increase in the gas tax to permit California to expand its highway program. A special session of the legislature he called for this purpose failed to act and now it is up in the regular session, and the governor accuses "slick lobbyists of the oil companies" with working to defeat the tax increase.

Reason given for the latest increase is higher prices for crude oil. The previous increase was attributed to higher freight rates. The first increase was said to be due to higher costs of operating.

Oil company earnings have held at high levels, for 1946 running 19 per cent greater than in 1945 for 18 companies, as reported in the National City bank news-letter. Operating costs no doubt are higher both because of higher wages and because of need to explore new fields. Drilling too must be deeper to reach new oil-bearing sands. Prospects are for continued high consumption and volume increase should take care of some cost increase.

Governor Warren says he is calling on the federal department of justice to investigate the companies and see if there is manipulation of prices by petroleum companies. Unless collusion can be shown in violation of the anti-trust act nothing could be done by the federal government. The oil companies however will do well to give some heed to the reaction of Governor Warren, who certainly is no radical, for oil is still highly inflammable in political prairie fires.

Menace of Foot-and-Mouth Disease

Last year in the effort to provide more beef our government opened the border for importation of cattle from Mexico. It went long however before the gate was hastily slammed shut when news came of the spread of hoof-and-mouth disease among Mexican herds. Lately the disease has been discovered 350 miles from the Texas border, and this has caused great alarm among southwest cattlemen. They fear this disease which plays havoc with herds of cattle.

Since Mexico is ill-prepared to stamp out the disease the United States is being asked to extend a neighborly hand (skillful veterinarians and vaccines) to stamp out the disease in Mexico. But Dr. B. T. Sumner, formerly of OSC, now chief of the agriculture department's bureau of animal industry, reports that the progress in working out control measures with Mexico is disappointingly slow.

The menace is genuine, and if the disease gets a start in Texas it might spread to the dairy and beef herds of the north. Here is one form of isolationism the whole country should approve. Freedom from this highly infectious disease among cattle; also one form of internationalism it should approve: helping the Mexicans get rid of it in their country.

Let Club Bill Die

About the only bill making a change in our system of liquor control which is alive is HB 207, now in the hands of the senate alcoholic traffic committee. The bill seeks to loosen some of the restrictions on clubs and really opens the way to considerable abuse. The present law requires clubs really to function as places where meals are served before obtaining club licenses from the commission. HB 207 would require them to have kitchen and dining room equipment and space and food on hand, but these could be mere window dressing for there is no requirement that the club function as a restaurant.

Ostensibly proposed in behalf of veterans the bill makes no reference to veterans. It would be well to let this bill die in committee. Present laws are liberal enough with respect to clubs.

Editorial Comment

ST. PATRICK
From Our Contemporaries
Great as he was as a missionary to Erin, St. Patrick is equally significant outside of his standing as the foremost Irish religious figure. In an important secular sense he was a pre-saver and furtherer of civilization. He did more than Christianize Ireland; he brought that island which up to his time had been a backwardly dim in the western ocean, into close contact with Europe and especially with Rome.

For the benefit of civilization this was just in time. The lamp of education was lighted in Ireland to burn brightly there during the period when the great barbarian migrations almost blacked it out on the margins of Europe and in North Africa, Britain as well. During the Dark Ages Ireland was the educational center of the world. The monastic schools carried on the Latin culture and fostered the arts and the sciences. In their turn, before the Anglo-Norman invasions upset the traditional life of Ireland, Irish scholars moved powerfully in the Carolingian revival of learning on the Continent.

As a personality Patrick was remarkable. His power of persuasion, for that was all he used, must have been immense. When he returned as a missionary to the country where he had once been a slave there were few Christians there. The people and their rulers were dominated by the Druids, who did not willingly give up their powers and privileges. Yet Patrick overcame them all; when he died the Irish people were Christian. He had wiped out not only idolatry but slavery. This gentle though bold soul was a great liberal of his time. In his own words he was "Against every knowledge that binds the soul of man." (San Francisco Chronicle.)

Paul Mallon's BEHIND THE NEWS

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WASHINGTON, March 20.—The American news dispatches from the Moscow conference said our delegation was "embarrassed" and "the Americans shifted uneasily in their seats" when Molotov pulled from the secret files of the past, the Yalta agreement, promising Russia half of \$20,000,000,000 reparations from Germany. There was no valid reason for any reasonable person to be embarrassed or uneasy.

The truth is Russia has probably already taken more than her allotted half—more than \$10,000,000,000 of the dollar value at the time of the Yalta agreement. You, who have read these dispatches, know she took the paper off German walls, machinery which we had to recapture to run the Berlin subway, everything she could lay her hands on. German machinery is today strewn out all over Russian railroad sidings. The inept Russians have merely made it lose its value by putting it to little or no use, because it can be no more valuable to anyone than the sum total of what it produces. Of course no one outside Russia knows the itemized list of it, items taken secretly as they were, behind the iron curtain of censorship.

The astonishing phase is our "uneasy" and "embarrassed" delegation made no mention of this matter, did not demand opening of east Germany to find out how much has been taken or make any accusations. (Our military has some of the facts.)

Relates Looting Secret

The inside reason for this strange omission of the plain facts of reparations looting to date is possibly due to a quiet secret story current in our official quarters, as to the nature of the Yalta conference. Mr. Roosevelt is supposed to have been somewhat ill, as was also Mr. Churchill. It was once said Mr. Roosevelt forgot to have a copy made of the Yalta agreements, and a government official once told me, the agreement at Yalta was recorded in American files only by certain personal notes of James Byrnes (then an unofficial adviser) which he made for his own use and placed in the safe at his home.

Once Byrnes is supposed to have been sent to his South Carolina residence hurriedly by Mr. Roosevelt to find out what Mr. Roosevelt did agree to at Yalta. The American delegation at Moscow may have known this inside story and felt some embarrassment about the entire subject for this reason.

General Marshall, at any rate, made an aquatic legal and diplomatic answer to Molotov by pointing out that Potsdam superseded and nullified Yalta. However his was a sort of defensive answer, and if he had raised the question of how much the Russians have already looted out of Germany he would have put them on the defensive.

Censorship Delusion Cited

The Russians are getting away similarly with many delusions on the American public—and this may further explain our embarrassment in Moscow. The key delusion behind all this may be the fact that most of the American people believe Russia has lifted one porehole in the iron curtain to let the world see freely without censorship its own conference. In a way it has. Yet the whole truth is the American newsmen must use Russian facilities to get out their news, Russian telephones, telegraph instruments, radio—all managed by Russians. The Russian government, which controls all these instruments, knows instantly every word sent out by the conference if not before. No words have been deleted the last check I made.

Feature Regret Held Possible

But the overall truth of the matter is that in Moscow a reporter might have ideas he would regret having had once he gets home. I heard a great leader once say he used to go out to California annually and make great decisions swiftly in the balmy air there. But when he came back to New York and started thinking his decisions over, he changed every one of them back to his original idea. Travel may broaden one too much and travel to Moscow might even broaden a logical man into embarrassment and uneasiness. For this reason you may see a surprising bit of news develop shortly, it is possible the delegation may find it necessary to move the conference to some other place, say, for instance Switzerland, where it is really beautiful in the spring. It is possible this may be done long before the allotted time of the conference. Marshall is known to have intended to remain six weeks at the start.

The delegates might be able to think with less embarrassment, more ease and above all with greater clarity in Switzerland or even in a telephone booth at the south pole.

Ram Donated as Prize for Show

A registered Romney ram donated as an award by Dr. C. H. Seagraves, Clackamas county veterinarian, has given impetus to plans for the Clackamas county spring lamb show, sponsored by the newly organized Clackamas county livestock association. The show will be held the last week in May at the Canby fairgrounds. Those who already have indicated they will show are Harms Brothers, Rufus Kraxberger, John Weber, Elwood Feist, C. E. Kraft and Fred Diety all of Canby; William Stachey of Oregon City, Louis Schpabauer of Hubbard and V. C. Doppel of Molalla.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"No—I haven't the slightest idea where you could reach my husband—he just said he'd be working late at the office!"

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page 1)

and the local units of government. Wages are pretty good now—I saw recently that the average in coal-mining was around \$70 a week. But too few of the mining families know how to budget their finances. They squander money on gaudy furniture, on drink or other indulgences, accumulate little in the way of savings. Mine owners provide very crude housing, cheap shacks which they rent for small sums monthly. The mining communities lack running water, sewage disposal, sanitary regulations. Operators are indifferent as to how the miners live, say they wouldn't take care of good places if they were furnished.

The publicly supported services are not adequate. Truancy is common among school children. No community recreation is provided, and children fend for themselves for amusement, learn to smoke early, frequent poolhalls and movies. While health services are provided by company doctors the hospitals are inadequate. What is needed is an attack all along the line, and it ought to begin with education of the miners themselves in home-making, sanitation, in health rules, in budgeting finances. A much better job should be done by the public schools if only to enforce attendance. Mine villages should get running water and sewage disposal. More things of greater importance than wage increases, because thousands of families on smaller incomes live more recently and comfortably, proving it can be done.

Here we are remote from coal mining districts, but we are distressed to see pictures of the stringy streets, the unpainted shacks, the outside privies, the flies, the wallowing hogs, the unkempt dooryards. We'd like to see improvement in these conditions. The enlightening articles in the L.H.J. reveal the need, make it clear that joint effort is needed to eliminate the conditions which are a disgrace to America and really are not necessary.

Pheasant Dinner For Patients At Silverton

SILVERTON—Silverton hospital folk dined on wild pheasant and quail Tuesday night. Joe Charles Bello \$100 and Gaylon Duane Amon \$25 in justice court. Bello and Amon, both from Salem, were arrested Sunday by Chief of Police Victor Grossnickle for having the pheasant and quail in their homes. Additional charges on Bello were killing and hunting game out of season. Both pleaded guilty and Bello was fined \$100 and costs, given a 60-day suspended jail sentence, besides having his 22 standard pistol, with which he did the shooting, confiscated. Amon was fined \$25 and costs and given a 30-day suspended sentence for being in the company of Bello while in the possession of the out-of-season birds.

The birds were shot late Sunday afternoon from Paradise road. Judge Alf O. Nelson turned the birds over to the hospital and the pistol to the game commission.

Also fined in justice court were George Hayes, \$5 and costs for having no operator's license; Albert Hauck on a charge of driving with four in the front seat, \$5 and costs; Norman McAllister, \$49.50 on a charge of driving an overloaded log truck.

Red Cross Drive Hits 70 Per Cent

Approximately 70 per cent of Marion county's \$49,000 quota in the current Red Cross fund drive has been turned in. Fred Staret, general chairman, said Thursday at the Lions club luncheon. With the Salem automotive section over its \$2000 quota and two rural areas topping their marks the total yesterday was nearly \$34,000. John Stark is

Public Records

MUNICIPAL COURT
John Ventelcher, Sublimity, deficient lights, posted \$5 bail.
C. H. Emery, Sweet Home, violation of basic rule, posted \$25 bail.
James B. Crenshaw, route 8, Salem, violation of basic rule, posted \$5 bail.

David Benjamin Hague, 1820 Ferry st., violation of basic rule, posted \$10 bail.
MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS
Herbert J. Schwarz, 20, farmer, and Lorraine Maertz, 22, telephone operator, both of Salem.
Herbert C. Lucas, 23, student, Salem, and Mary Elizabeth Snow, 19, student, San Fernando, Calif.
Emmett L. Gilmer, 35, mill worker, and Margaret Wedel, 31, office worker, both of Salem.
Kenneth L. Buchanan, 26, deputy county clerk, and Jeannette Wieder, 23, bookkeeper, both of Salem.

James W. Moore, 26, truck driver, Junction City, and Luella E. Percell, 32, housewife, Cheshire, Ore.
JUSTICE COURT
Leatill Sara Oden, 10 Williams ave., no operator's license, fined \$2.50 and costs.
Arthur Carl Kennedy, 2635 S. Summer st., no operator's license, fined \$15 and costs.
Roy G. Petty, preliminary hearing set for March 28 on charge of escaping from Marion county jail.

CIRCUIT COURT
Wilfred Weathers and Dorothy Weathers vs. Lulu Marie Jerman and Portland Trust and Savings Bank: Order of dismissal, upon settlement out of court.
Farmers Underwriters association, et al., vs. Dora B. Reed and Claire Reed: Complaint asks judgment of \$1000 in settlement of alleged indebtedness.
Delmer E. Wood vs. Vernon W. Hallford: Plaintiff asks \$1250 damages for death of two horses, allegedly caused by defendant's operation of automobile.

PROBATE COURT
Edwin H. Foster guardianship: Order approving annual report.
Mary Engi guardianship: Order approving annual account.
D. Clifford estate: Order closing estate.
Sally Bush estate: Report of appraisers.
Mathilda Spielbrink estate: Report of appraisers.
Frank L. Rahn estate: Report of appraisers.

Approval of Sales Tax Held Possible

(Story Also on Page 1)
Rep. Earl Hill of Cushman, a leader in the house faction which pushed through the sales tax measure by a 38 to 22 vote Thursday, told representatives there was little basis to the belief that the sales tax could not win statewide approval merely because it has been beaten previously (the last time 269,276 to 96,691).

He said the income tax was up for popular vote repeatedly from 1912 until it finally was endorsed at the 1930 referendum. Other proponents of the measure said it was essential because other tax measures, which sales tax opponents declared would meet the state's needs, also might be carried to referendum and the state left without adequate means of support.

Special Session Feared
Rep. E. H. Condit of Clatskanie, in explaining why he voted against the sales tax, said he planned to be married and go to the beach for 40 days, and if there's a special session of the legislature then I'm going to be hard to get along with.

The possibility of a special session also was voiced by Rep. M. P. Gallagher of Ontario, who urged that other tax measures be passed conditionally so they would become operative to provide needed revenue in event the sales tax issue was defeated in referendum.

Major opposition rested on contentions that the sales tax (1)

would be defeated for the sixth time at referendum regardless of legislative action, and (2) that the state's budget can be balanced without it, by adoption of proposals contained in the tax study commission's report of three months ago.

State Needs Cited

Rep. Lyle Thomas cited as the state's needs another \$2,000,000 for the school support fund, around \$3,000,000 additional for public welfare, and \$10,000,000 to make up the present prospective deficit.

To meet these needs, Thomas suggested:

(1) Transfer to the general fund of \$7,000,000 in surplus funds of the corporate excise tax act, as earlier proposed by Gov. Earl Snell; (2) enactment into law of the house-approved cigarette tax bill designed to raise \$4,000,000 next biennium; (3) adoption of the house-approved 1 per cent withholding tax measure estimated to yield \$2,000,000 in two years; (4) placing the tax commission on a self-sustaining basis instead of appropriating \$1,000,000 from the general fund, and (5) subjecting to state income tax the now-exempt federal income tax levy, estimated to raise \$6,000,000 the next biennium—at a cost he estimated at less than \$5,000,000 to taxpayers who would have more deductions from federal tax.

Other Bills Proposed

Rep. Giles French, terming the sales tax measure "the worst bill" he had seen on the subject, suggested passage of other pending legislation, including proposals to tax slot machines, reduce income tax exemptions, and levy a 10 per cent tax on liquor.

The sales tax was endorsed earlier this week in an address by Gov. Earl Snell, who said he never was "enthused" about the plan but indicated he believed it now necessary.

SORBOE EXPECTS 125

PULLMAN, Wash., March 20.—(AP)—Coach Phil Sorboe said today he expected 125 candidates next Monday for the opening of spring football practice at Washington State college.

Public Urged To Discuss Medical Plans

Discussing pre-paid or socialized medical service plans before the Salem Lions club Thursday, Dr. W. W. Baum urged all citizens to interest themselves in the subject and to discuss their opinions with their doctors and legislators.

Dr. Baum, Salem physician who pioneered in his development of Oregon Physicians' Service, spoke at the noon luncheon of the club in the Marion hotel.

The medical profession generally oppose over-all "socialized" medicine sponsored by the government, Dr. Baum said, because it considers such a plan unworkable. Principal objections, he explained, are the limited number of doctors and the unlimited demands for service which likely would result.

Dr. Baum pointed out that a municipal medical service plan had to be abandoned in Detroit, Mich., when the normal demand for medical service increased fourfold with advent of the plan. He added that treatment of specific illnesses or injuries, which may be predicted in a given population, constitutes only 20 or 30 per cent of the total service, the bulk of which consists of consultation and non-predictable services.

Rose Society Plans Show

Plans were made for the annual rose show to be held at the YMCA June 7 and 8 by the Salem Rose society at the society's meeting last night in the "Y."

Howard J. Grady, Portland, of the California Spray Chemical corporation, spoke on "Pests and Diseases of Roses and Their Control" and a round table discussion on fertilizer was led by Earl W. Benbow of Dallas.



Dr. E. E. Boring



Dr. Sam Hughes

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H&D Spinach 2 1/2 tin 16¢ 2 1/2 tin 19¢	Luncheon Meat Rath's 12-oz. tin 42¢	MANKIND DOG FOOD 2 cans 25¢	OTTER MINCED CLAMS 1/2 tin 35¢	LEED'S DEVILED MEAT 1/2 tin 10¢	LIPTON'S NOODLE SOUP MIX 3 for 29¢	All Sweet Margarine 1-lb. 45¢	Olive Butter Grande 5-oz. glass 18¢
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<p>Red Cross Drive Hits 70 Per Cent Approximately 70 per cent of Marion county's \$49,000 quota in the current Red Cross fund drive has been turned in. Fred Staret, general chairman, said Thursday at the Lions club luncheon. With the Salem automotive section over its \$2000 quota and two rural areas topping their marks the total yesterday was nearly \$34,000. John Stark is</p>							
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