

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Greece and High Policy

Some factors indicate that Greece is merely incidental to high politics in our international affairs. It is reported for instance that the situation in Greece has been known for some time. There is report, not authenticated, that some months back the United States was informed that the British would have to suspend their assistance. The bustling speech of President Truman was aimed not only at Greece but over the head of Greece at Russia. In short, the United States was adopting a "get tougher" line toward Russia. The timing of the president's address to congress just as the Moscow conference was getting under way was not a miss, and not just accidental coincidence. The line was approved before Secretary Marshall left for Russia. The Truman address thus may have been designed not only to assist Greece and inform the world of our new line of policy, but to support Secretary Marshall in his assignment at Moscow.

Conditions in Greece had been studied last year by a special mission which reported to the Food and Agriculture Organization at its Copenhagen conference last September. Thomas L. Stokes, in his newspaper column of Sunday, quoted from that survey as follows:

"It is recommended:
(a) That the Greek government should request the economic and social council of the United Nations to arrange with interested specialized agencies to establish a United Nations advisory mission to Greece, to operate during the initial years of the development program.
(b) That the proposed United Nations advisory mission should replace all other international and foreign economic missions in Greece."

The proposed advisory commission would consolidate other special agencies of UN in this field, and would have worked out through the Greek government and the UN a plan of relief and rehabilitation. Though the report was prepared in September and approved by FAO in November nothing was done to implement it. And now Greece becomes the focal point of international crisis.

The long-time weakness of the Truman plan seems to lie in its ignoring of the United Nations and of international co-operation. The answer has already been made by officialdom, namely that UN is unprepared and that positive action might fail under a veto. Perhaps, but the veto would then have released the USA to an independent course of action.

President Truman has recommended a program. It is by no means clear that it was the only program, or that, save in extremely, the wise program. Posed as it is however it becomes linked with high politics and its rejection by the congress becomes exceedingly difficult.

Courthouse Site

SB 354 which has disturbed the county court, is a good example of how easy it is for legislation to pass before interested people wake up to the fact a bill on the subject has been introduced. It certainly puts the laugh on Salem that this bill should get to the governor before anyone in Salem became aroused. The exact origin of the bill is obscure; and its purpose may not be sinister, but the county court and others here are afraid it's purpose or at least its possible effect would be to grease the skids for moving the courthouse to a new site.

Some persons have urged that the county sell at least half the courthouse block, but any such suggestion meets with overwhelming opposition of those who want the full block retained for the courthouse as part of Salem's civic center. The only suggestion of change that has much support is to combine the city hall with the courthouse and there are numerous obstacles in that path.

This bill provides mechanics for shifting the location of any courthouse. It provides for a 30-day notice duly published of a public hearing, when petitions for changing the site (within the county seat) may be considered. If any petition comes in signed by ten per cent of the voters then the question must be submitted to the voters. The real joker is in this provision, that if no petitions come in asking for a change in the site then the county court "shall be authorized, in its discretion, to change such site." By this language the county court may change the location of the courthouse on its own motion UNLESS a petition comes in calling for a change in the site. That certainly is screwball legislation.

We have no fears about the future location of the Marion county courthouse. The county court cannot sell the block because it was originally dedicated as a Public Square; and fortunately there is no disposition on the part of the court to shift the site. But this bill should either be recalled and revised (or killed) or vetoed by the governor. Otherwise it is possible that some county may wake up some morning and find its courthouse moved ten blocks away, more or less.

Another Headache?

The ruling of Circuit Judge George R. Duncan appears to endanger the whole titling program of the state. He has held that the diversion of ten per cent of the receipts of the forest patrol tax to the general fund and the ten per cent penalty are unconstitutional. For years the state has levied what is called a titling charge against many self-sustaining state agencies and transferred the money to the state general fund. The anticipated revenues for next biennium from this source are \$281,000.

The question naturally arises that if titling the forest patrol tax is unconstitutional because it diverts a tax from a special to a general purpose titling the other funds may likewise be unconstitutional, which would result in further unbalancing of the state budget.

Sportsmen of the state have long been critical of titling receipts from sale of hunting and fishing licenses and may welcome a chance to put it to a court test.

Titling originated during the Meier administration when the state was hard pressed for funds. The theory used to justify the charge was that the state furnished services, legal and other, which deserved compensation from the self-sustaining boards.

The supreme court has yet to pass on the case, and it may be assumed the state will appeal Judge Duncan's ruling.

Union Defeat at West Allis

The ending of the 327-day strike of CIO workers at the Allis-Chalmers plant at West Allis, Wis., came by surrender of the union. This has been rare in late controversies. Usually the union wins because the employer will not stand the punishment of a prolonged strike. The Allis-Chalmers management was far tougher than usual.

Plane Crash Takes Life of John Crech

(Picture on page 1)

Confirmation of the news first received through an Associated Press dispatch from Cairo of the death of Lt. John W. Crech in an airplane crash in Ethiopia came from the war department Monday to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Crech, 180 S. 14th st. Sunday, a verification was obtained by Chandler Brown who called Congressman Walter Norblad in Washington and the latter made inquiries of the war department.

Details of the accident have not been received, and funeral plans await word of the arrival of the body in this country.

The family is widely known in Salem, the father having opened a drug store at 1220 State street for many years and Mrs. Crech being head of the home economics department at Salem high school. The news brought many expressions of sympathy as friends recalled the death in 1933 of their only other child, daughter, Julia, who became ill while a student at the University of Oregon. John W. Crech was born Jan. 31, 1909, in Shepherd, Mich. The family removed to Salem in 1919 and John completed his course in elementary and high school here. At the University of Oregon he was affiliated with Sigma Nu fraternity and distinguished himself in athletics, particularly tennis and swimming. His field of study was English, and he continued his interest in literature after he returned home and joined his father in the drug store.

Crech entered military service July 15, 1942. He was first assigned to medical detachment with ski troops at Camp Carson, Colo., but soon was sent to Ft. Benning for officers' training. He received his commission within three days of the minimum time required after entering the service. In the summer of 1943 he took part in army maneuvers in Tennessee, then was assigned to Ft. Ontario, N. Y. After brief service with an armored division at Ft. Dix he was sent to Ft. Benning again for training as a paratrooper. After completing his training he served as an instructor and made over 100 successful drops, an unusual number. In August, 1945, Crech, then a captain, came home on terminal leave, but was called back to Washington and reentered service as lieutenant with airborne troops. For many months he had been on secret detail, traveling principally by air out of Cairo and Teheran over the middle east. It is assumed he was returning from the latter city when he met with his fatal accident.

The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

OFFERS REMEDIES FOR DRINKING EVILS
To the Editor: The records show staggering evidence that intoxicating liquor is all too often the dominant factor in crime. When booze supplies reason and self control anything may follow. The tiger supplants the man. With most close observers this conclusion is granted. But may we ask, wherein lies the responsibility? The foggy-minded, bleary-eyed drunk has a major responsibility to be sure, but he is not alone. In the background is the money-crazed plutocrat who turns out "samples" of his ghastly business, and the citizenry permitting the traffic must in turn pay the cost of crime resulting from intoxication. Blighted homes and blighted lives proclaim spent values which are beyond reckoning. A few remedies are suggested:

1.—Federal and state laws compelling those who manufacture intoxicating liquor to pay the monetary cost resulting from intoxication.

2.—Do not fine a drunken driver. Sentence the drunk to hard labor in a rock quarry—from 30 to 90 days, and in addition require that he pay for his own keep. No suspended sentence permitted by law.

3.—A public revolt against moving pictures in which drinking has a place. The mind—particularly that of youth—is irreparably damaged by the suggestion that drinking is "just the thing" as an escape from any undesirable situation.

4.—We citizens of Oregon must cease insulting our aged dependents by handing them "tainted money" from profits of our liquor corporation. This is OUR CORPORATION, and also our responsibility, and aren't we proud of the dividends, notices of which reach us daily through the press and over the air?

The voice of history brooks no dispute—moral decay foretells the end.

WILLARD ALFRED ELKINS, Rt. 2, Box 25F, Salem, Ore.

OH, CONSISTENCY!

To the Editor: After raising salaries in the higher brackets, it is now proposed to cut old age assistance 10%, and that in the face of rising costs for living. Thousands of dollars per year isn't sufficient, but \$44 per month is unnecessarily high! If this vicious plan is really adopted, the lawmakers are in for some very unpleasant reactions throughout the state, that is certain.

SAM J. HARMS, 379 N. Cottage

CHICO MARX TO RETIRE

LAS VEGAS, Nev., March 24.—(AP)—Comedian Chico Marx, who last Saturday observed his 56th birthday anniversary, disclosed tonight he had suffered a heart attack and that he planned to retire from show business.

GRIN AND BEAR IT



"Maybe it's just as well we can't save money, Elwyn—We'd likely arouse the suspicions of the tax people, the Anti-Trust Division, and the Un-American Committee!"

'Best of Show' Honors Go to Boston Terrier at 10th Annual Salem Lions' Club Classic

By Robert E. Gangware, City Editor, The Statesman

A trim Boston terrier from Olympia, Wash., Long's Bra's Witch, captured "best of show" honors Sunday night as the 10th annual Salem Lions club all-breed dog show closed in the grandstand building of the state fairgrounds.

Breaking past records for attendance and entries, the local show presented some 450 dogs of nearly every breed for two full days of exhibit and judging. Attendance totaled 2,723, nearly 500 more than last year when the show all but overflowed the Salem armory.

Nine dogs of Salem and the mid-valley area were among the scores of ribbon winners from five western states and Canada. A Salem boy, Don Ringland, 16-year-old son of the D. L. Ringlands of the Ferry street pet shop, won the grand trophy for children's handling of dogs. He showed the family's 2½-year-old bulldog Zorro Torro Onda.

Ribbons to Valley Folk

Several ribbons went to nine of the dogs on exhibit, but only group honor among them went to J. H. Willett, 865 Kingwood dr., for third place among all sporting dogs, awarded for his black cocker spaniel, Seven Gables Story Cloud. Willett, partner in the business with his wife, Mrs. M. J. Willett, won a best of winners ribbon in his variety.

Other ribbon winners of the area and their highest awards were Engle, springer spaniel, Kesteron's Tomboy winners bitch, entered by Jerry Kelley, 183 N. 22nd st., and Jeune File Voir de Franswood, best of opposite sex, entered by Diane Putnam, 2408 S. 20th st., and Adorable Miss of Halecrest, best of opposite sex, entered by Mrs. D. L. Ringland, 462 Perry st., North-west Namekaka, best of winners, entered by Albert Willett, Lebanon, English setter, Wilton's Malibaw Betty, best of opposite sex, also entered by Wilton. Chesapeake Bay retriever, Oratorio's Romney Kennel, opposite sex, entered by Fred E. Chase, Albany, Great Pyrenees, XIV winners dog, entered by Mrs. Ethel Dybdal, Newberg.

For the show's grand winner, Mrs. Walter D. Long of route 2, Olympia, Wash., received from Gov. Earl Sells the grand trophy sponsored by Jack and Lillian Putnam of Salem.

Exhibits Own Dog
Mrs. Long was the only owner to exhibit her own dog in the final eliminations from the six group winners, being exhibited by professional dog handlers. Her dog, a 17-month-old female Boston terrier, represented the non-sporting dog group.

The other five group winners were: Sporting — Knightscroft Dollymount Dan, an Irish setter of Dollymount Kennels, Tacoma; hounds — Antonia of Gipsy Barn, long-haired dachshund, owned by Mrs. Charlotte Sibley, San Francisco; working — Kilburn Avenger, doberman pinscher, E. D. T. Jones, Portland; terriers — Black-briar Blair, Scottish terrier, Black-briar kennels, Seattle; toys — Hin San's Tinker Toy, Pekinese, Florence Clarke, Vancouver. B. C. Group winner trophies were presented by Mrs. Earl Snell.

Of these finalists, both the doberman and the dachshund had been exhibited in group eliminations by Nicky Finn, San Francisco professional handler who also exhibited the second place dogs in the toy and non-sporting group eliminations (showing a miniature pinscher named Chow Chow).

German Shepherds Win
In a special class, the winning brace, a pair of closely matched German shepherds, was exhibited by A. R. McKay, Maplewood, Ore., kennels-man.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page 1)

in the great Columbia river and the boats which have served its communities. He made the trip upstream on the George Burton, and doubtless will do much to see that its museum is furnished with authentic relics of the age of the river steamboats.

Times have changed. The old-fashioned river steamer is itself almost a relic now. In its place have come the power tugboat and the barge. Diesel-driven tugs tow or push strings of barges up and down the river, the barges loaded with petroleum or general cargo upstream and with wheat down. They carry a large tonnage and operate at low cost. While they revive the commerce of the Columbia they do not restore the romance of the old river boat. That the George Burton will seek to save in its final anchorage at The Dalles.

Stock Declines In Slow Market

NEW YORK, March 24.—(AP)—Stocks, with scattered exceptions, returned to the losing side in today's market although pressure was lacking throughout and dealings the slowest in more than eight months.

Sleepy tendencies were displayed by the ticker tape from the start. Slight irregularity ruled until midday. Trends then began to slip and many pivots closed at or around the lows of the day with declines of fractions to better than 2 points.

Refusal of the list, as a whole, to respond to more favorable brand of labor news inspired a certain amount of professional selling. Settlement of the wage dispute in the rubber industry aided some tire stocks although most failed to follow through. Ending of the lengthy Alis-Chalmers strike buoyed this issue but was ignored generally. Most customers continued to hold aloof because of doubts regarding taxes, business and foreign affairs.

Corn, Barley Demand High

CHICAGO, March 24.—(AP)—There was not enough corn and barley at the board of trade to meet the demand, and corn advanced the daily limit of 8 cents at the close. Barley was up 2 cents for that grain half way through the session, and wheat just missed the 10 cent daily limit advance with a day's increase of nine and five-eighths cents.

The board of trade reported that the visible supply of wheat has decreased 1,989,000 bushels the past week to a total of 29,134,000 bushels. While corn increased 122,000 bushels to a total of 36,207,000 bushels traders said the demand far exceeded the supply and wheat closed 2 cents to 9½ cents higher than Saturday's finish. May \$2.68½-¼. Corn was 2 to 8 cents higher, May \$1.78½. Oats were ¼ to 3½ higher, May 88½-¾. Barley was 10 cents higher, May \$1.59.

A shortage of box cars is reported from the surplus wheat and corn states, which is said to be holding down arrival at terminals. Corn bookings were placed at around 250,000 bushels.

City Requested To Note Army 'Day' All Week

Salem will observe Army Day, April 7, along with the rest of the nation, according to Mayor R. L. Elfstrom's proclamation Monday.

Citing the gratitude of the city to the men who served in the armed forces during the war and to those who are now serving in the peace armies, Mayor Elfstrom designated April 7 to 12 as "Army Day" week.

Mayor Elfstrom asked all persons of Salem to cooperate by displaying the American flag from homes and buildings throughout the city from sunrise until sunset each day from April 7 to and including April 12.

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Highway Tree Strip Decided By Commission

(Story also on page 1)

PORTLAND, March 24.—(AP)—Purchase of land which will give 14 miles of Three Flags highway south of Ukiah, Ore., a border of pine trees was approved by the state highway commission today.

The 80-acre tract, completing a pine wayside, was bought from G. E. Carnes, Pilot Rock, at \$10 an acre. The parks superintendent recommendation to purchase 44 acres south of Depoe Bay for a wayside was held for further study and a McKenzie highway wayside proposed by Springfield chamber of commerce was rejected.

The commission authorized the Seventh Day Adventist and the Christian church to rent Silver Creek Falls park for short periods this summer at a charge of 15 cents a day per person.

Bids were awarded as follows: Clackamas, Hood River and Wasco counties — Mt. Hood and

Wapinitia highway, awarded to J. N. and M. J. Conley, Portland, \$42,975.
Cooks county — Cape Arago secondary highway, Coos Bay Dredging company, Coos Bay, \$18,991.
Lincoln county — Painting Yaquina Bay bridge on Oregon Coast highway at Newport, awarded to Pacific Bridge Painting company, San Francisco, \$14,148.
Sherman county — Bridge over Buck Hollow creek on Sherars Bridge secondary highway, J. P. Brittan and company, Portland, \$37,320.

15-YEAR SENTENCE GIVEN
PORTLAND, March 24.—(AP)—Circuit Judge James W. Crawford today sentenced John D. Palmer, 26, to 15 years in the state penitentiary, following his conviction on a charge of manslaughter for the slaying of Mrs. Jodie Redman, 33, at Vanport. He also was fined \$1000.

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