

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
Member of the Associated Press

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'The Military Moves In'

The United States could achieve absolute military preparedness only at the cost of our whole way of life, our democracy, and our liberties. This, we are told by Hanson W. Baldwin, is the dilemma which faces the American people today.

Baldwin's article in the December Harpers discusses the meaning of the osmosis of the military into formerly sacrosanct civilian spheres. As military analyst of the New York Times and a graduate of Annapolis, Baldwin is qualified to make his timely observations and his argument is buttressed by considerable evidence.

Baldwin discerns the objective of the military to be absolute preparedness in time of peace, an objective which would lead to the "garrison state and ruin."

He cites as indications of the military taking over:

The long and familiar list of military men in positions of civil authority — from Secretary of State Marshall down to many ambassadors. There is nothing insidious in this per se, Baldwin warns, but the tendency of the military to think and evaluate in terms of physical power is potentially dangerous. For example, military thought influenced this nation's annexation of certain mandated Pacific islands of doubtful strategic value and the snubbing of the United Nations in our independent Truman-Marshall program in Europe.

Also: The army-navy merger bill with possible appointment of a single high commander whose power in times of emergency would be absolute. Military dictator is a word with ugly implications.

Military influence in science and education is already tremendous, Baldwin points out. Scientists hired to develop weapons find research is retarded by military emphasis on results rather than on research for its own sake. Secrecy restrictions severely curtail free exchange of information so necessary to scientific research.

The writer predicts that increased dependence of the nation's educational system on military financing and policy (he calls the tune who pays the piper) would be a result of great numbers of federally-subsidized students produced by passage of universal military training legislation.

Through industrial mobilization planning military leaders have invaded the industrial field, disturbing the nation's economy by stockpiling materials and limiting use of various "strategic" raw stuffs, the Timesman charges.

But the most formidable aspect of growing military power is increasing military influence on public and congressional opinion. This is largely effected by use of propaganda — censorship and slanted "informational" releases. Present censorship is so prevalent that we may never know the accurate history of the last war . . . or many other events.

Baldwin flays the lack of concern displayed by the public about the inroads on civilian authority made by the military. He admits that in a sense the acceptance of military leaders by civilians is a tribute to the quality of men developed by the services and a sort of hangover of wartime admiration of all things military.

Because total war means the direction of every phase of the national life toward the peacetime maintenance of military strength to the end of military victory. And the establishment of such a garrison state would mean the destruction of the very principles Americans have fought to save.

"Our national problem is to achieve a reasonable security — a relative, not absolute, security — in an era of total war and the atomic bomb, in an era of centralized government and of postwar military prestige, without sacrificing the basic tenets of democracy," he emphasizes.

This problem is the age-old conflict between security and liberty — a conflict which can be ended in a compromise between a degree of relative security and guarantees of basic liberties. In the atomic age absolute security or total preparedness are only figurative terms . . .

So, Baldwin would take the middle way — reasonably adequate preparation for war and a reasonable increase in military efficiency — "with complete and assured civilian control of military preparations."

The Statesman has little fear that the country will succumb to the garrison state, because the love of freedom and the traditions by which it is preserved are too strong. The real danger is not from a military dictatorship but from a fear psychosis (which may be fostered by the military) which will permit in the name of defense heavy militarization. Baldwin's article is timely in pointing out these dangers.

Mihai Joins Royal DP's

The abdication of King Mihai I of Rumania adds another name to the royal list of displaced persons. Albania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Spain, and Hungary have had their monarchies replaced by another absolute or totalitarian regimes. The king of Italy died in exile and Belgium's monarch is also in exile, while those countries try popular rule. The Greek throne is none too secure.

The last strong holds of crumbling European royalty are the crowns in England, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and the Netherlands, but the power of the rulers is nominal and government in those countries is democratic. The little principalities of Lichtenstein and Monaco and the grand duchy of Luxembourg are intact but the traditional prestige of royal majesty is somewhat shopworn. The Eugene Register-Guard explains it this way:

"The day is long past when kings were leaders. They have been simply the symbols of national pride and of a social order. Royalty and a royal family have been identified so long with certain things which make for stability — property, religion, rank, recognition . . . Nevertheless, while the ancient monarchies have decayed and disappeared all around us a new (but ancient) form of authoritarian government has been rising — dictatorship."

Dictators like Hitler, Stalin and Mussolini have been men of ignoble background who gained power by force, rather than by heritage, and who have used pomp and pageantry (backed by force) to inspire in their subjects the loyalty and pride the old kings commanded. Sometimes the citizens have submitted because, as the Guard points out:

"Self-government is the most difficult of all arts . . . We are all royalists at heart . . . bewildered and afraid we like to be told. We want democratic rights but democracy fails when a nation is too ignorant, too lazy, or too timid to exercise those rights."

With the passing of the monarchies and their occasional "benevolent despots" the alternative for the people nevertheless remains the same: totalitarianism (like communism) or democracy.

Low bid for widening 5½ miles of the Pacific highway between Oregon City and New Era was \$678,000. The highway commission rejected the bid and will readvertise the job, though it is not clear how it may expect a lower price unless it scales down the job. Chiseling away at the rock palisades bordering the road is expensive business, and the cost is increased because of the necessity of keeping a way open for traffic. Why not give up this project and divert the money to the Wilsonville cut-off which is the practical short road to Portland?

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

on republican nominee. Guess on next state board of control: McKay, Newbury, Belton.

Taxes: Congress will pass a tax reduction bill which Truman will sign.

5. Civil liberties: outlook poor. Super-patriots will continue to harass those with unorthodox views.

6. Local conditions: Good business assured. Farm crops ought to be better; canneries have longer runs. Big building program insures full employment.

7. Living: Postwar sobering. Fewer divorces. Many marriages, high birth rate.

Time of course is continuous, the shift in the calendar a mere convenience for record-keeping. The very process of living involves continuous change. Year-beginning predictions are at best guesses, for the events themselves generate changes. We greet each new year with optimism, however, well compassed in the greeting: "Happy New Year."

William Roth Rites Friday at Pratum Church

Funeral services for William Roth, long-time resident of Salem and Pratum, will be held from the Pratum Mennonite church Friday at 2 p.m.

The Rev. W. A. Regier will officiate and interment will be in the Pratum cemetery. The Clough-Barrick company will be in charge. Roth died in a Salem hospital Tuesday following a two-year illness. He was 82 years old.

He was born in Switzerland, Oct. 18, 1865, and came to the United States in 1885, settling in Kansas. On March 22, 1887, he was married to Adele Marian Griessen, whom he had known in Switzerland. In 1890 the couple moved to Salem and a short time later purchased a farm near Pratum where they lived until 1922, when Roth retired and they moved to Salem. Mrs. Roth died here about 10 years ago.

Roth was a member of the Pratum Mennonite church. Surviving besides Mrs. Elfrstrom are four other daughters, Mrs. Elvin Herr of Silverton, Mrs. Homer Leisy of Dallas, Mrs. E. A. Liesy of Portland and Mrs. Charles Smith of Salem; four sons, W. A. Roth, John C. Roth, Henry Roth and Ernest Roth, all of Salem; two sisters, Mrs. Mary Broer and Mrs. Bertha Barnett, both of Salem; two brothers, Theodore Roth of Salem and Charles Roth of The Dalles; 28 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Pedee Family Host To Holiday Guests

PEDEE — Mrs. Howard Perry is a patient at the Salem General hospital where she underwent a major operation Friday.

Theda Condor of Corvallis is visiting her sister, Mrs. Thera Womer this week.

Nola Womer, primary teacher at Kings Valley is in Portland with her mother Mrs. Thera Womer.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Speers (Wilma Hilborn) of Kings Valley are the parents of an eight pound six ounce daughter, Cheryl Marie, born December 28 at Dallas hospital. This is their first child and it is the first grandchild of Mr. and Mrs. K. D. Hilborn.

New Year's Resolutions Still Find Large Following in Salem

Although New Year's resolutions may be considered by some as a now-decayed antique smuggled into this area about the time someone put plumbing in the county courthouse, The Statesman went interviewing about town Wednesday for good-natured and good-intentioned resolutions.

All sorts of answers resulted. David O'Hara, city alderman and state elections bureau chief: My exemplary behavior during the past year obviates any resolutions for 1948.

County Judge Grant Murphy: My record of intact and unbroken resolutions must be maintained in perfect condition . . . I never make any.

Roy Morris, police meter maintenance man: I'll never put another slug in those parking meters. Mrs. John Clearwater, Chamber of Commerce power-behind-the-throne: I'll resolve to dig up bigger and better news for the Statesman. (Bless her, didn't have to twist her arm, either).

To Enforce Laws District Attorney M. B. Hayden: We shall fairly and impartially enforce the laws in the coming year as we have done in the past—that includes the pinball regulations.

Harlan Judd, county clerk: Since I've just turned 40 I'm going to begin living this year, yes sir.

William H. Ballie, employment service: I'll never again make resolutions—then no one can accuse me of breaking them.

To Improve His Language M. C. Boniface at Shrock's used car department: I'm going to improve my language and put myself in the other person's place.

Mrs. R. S. Williams, vivacious Salem newcomer: I'm going to walk right up to people and say "hello."

C. A. Blakley, Salem taxi driver: I'm resolving to cut down on extra-curricular activities; going to go straight home from work and spend more time with my wife.

Mrs. Katherine Lambert and Mrs. Guy Hickok: Seems like resolutions always get lost some-

GRIN AND BEAR IT



Don't you remember, Otis? — The Williams — the Bakers — the Wilkinsons — the Duncans — the Fire Department . . . ?

Scout Leaders End '5-Year' Plan with 200% Increase In Area's Scout Population

Following a five-year membership expansion plan, which ended Wednesday, the Cascade area Boy Scout council looks forward to 1948 as a year for improving the quality of the scouting program.

The year 1947 ended with an all-time high membership of 3,040 scouts, cubs and senior scouts, an increase of 13 per cent over 1946 and an increase of over 200 per cent since 1942, the council executive board, headed by Lyle Leighton, reported this week.

Although council membership is divided almost evenly between scouts and cubs, nevertheless cub packs number only about one-third of the council units. The council now has 40 cub packs, which were increased by 10 during the past year, and 78 troops, which is three less than in 1946.

Cub Program Gains In the past year the cub program has outstripped the scouting program and in Linn county there are more cubs than scouts, the executive board reported.

Growth of council membership in 1947 came largely from rural communities which had not had scouting activities before. Some of these included Donald, Crooked Finger, Hazel Green, Crabtree, Scio and Marion. The executive board predicted that future expansion would come in these smaller centers.

Highlights of 1947 for council scouts and cubs included completion of Can. p Pioneer, scout circus, scoutmasters' Christmas party and the inauguration of a council long-range planning committee. In addition to improving the quality of scouting during 1947, the council also plans to stress advancement programs for individual scout ranks and to curb the rapid turnover of scout membership.

Compared with other council areas in the United States, this council ranks high in number of troops formed per population and in the opportunity offered boys interested in scouting, the executive board reported.

Returned Veterans The executive board, however, is not discouraged at these problems. The 800 adult leaders in the council's five districts, of which 100 were added in 1947, includes

many returning veterans eager to lead scout activities. The board points out that the increased turnover rate of scouts is due mostly to the fact that any boy is given an opportunity to join a troop here and no "pre-induction weeding" takes place in this council.

Modernization of 35-year-old scout advancement requirements also took place during the past year on a national scale. National scout leaders are emphasizing the fact that camping and outdoor living skills taught scouts and cubs should be made as practical and workable as possible.

Uniform Changes Uniform changes took place which did away with the traditional short pants and wide-brimmed hat. The local board emphasized, however, that the basic aim of scout has not changed — to build character.

None of the youth organizations, including the Boy Scouts are adequately financed, the board revealed. However, what is needed now more than money, is dedicated adult leadership by men who are willing to pass on to boys skills and leadership traits. Scouting, after all, it was said, is a community project.

The work of mailing approximately 75,000 state income tax withholding forms, under a law of the 1947 legislature, will get under way early next week, Earl Fisher, in charge of the income tax commission, announced Wednesday.

The one per cent withholding tax applies to virtually all payrolls in excess of \$50 a month and is based almost exclusively on salaries and wages. The law provides that reports of employers shall be filed quarterly with the first filing due April 30. Fisher estimated the withholding tax would raise approximately \$750,000.

Sending out regular state income tax returns for the year 1948, based on 1947 incomes, also will start within a week or 10 days, Fisher said. These returns must be filed with the tax commission not later than April 15 to avoid penalty and interest.

where, but surely everyone could try to be more neighborly and useful and pleasant.

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By Lichty

City's '47 Traffic Toll Shows Decline over Previous Year; Accident Rate Continues High

The traffic death toll in Salem dropped to five in 1947 as compared with seven fatalities in 1946, but the total in all of Marion county remained high, 1947 police records indicate.

Three of Salem's 1947 traffic victims were pedestrians, while two died in injuries in auto collisions.

Mrs. Leah Hibberd, 20, was the first 1947 casualty. The young Salem matron was killed when she was riding on a bicycle on the morning when the car in which she was riding skidded out of control and smashed into a tree in the 1400 block on South Commercial street about 12:15 a. m. The auto, driven by A. E. McLaughlin of Salem, was literally wrapped around the tree by the terrific impact. McLaughlin was seriously injured but recovered.

Twice More in January Death struck twice again in January. Everett W. Rutherford, well known Salem barber, died January 14 from injuries sustained when he was struck by a car at South 12th and Ferry streets January 11. Four days later, on January 18, William J. Butler of Salem succumbed to injuries incurred when he was struck by a truck in the alley behind the Greyhound bus depot the previous day.

Fatality number four was Mary Wright, two-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Wright of Seattle, who died on March 24 from a fractured skull suffered when she fell from her parents' moving automobile the day before.

The final victim was Julius Middleton, 65, of Salem, who died in a local hospital September 30 from head injuries incurred when he was struck by a car at 12th and Oak streets on September 19.

Bus, Truck Wreck A head-on collision between a Greyhound bus and a truck at Midway, 12 miles south of Salem, November 5, took two lives. Don Billings, 43, Portland, driver of an Oregon Journal truck, was killed instantly and Mrs. Maude Mawhinney, Portland, a bus passenger, died in a Salem hospital November 27 from injuries suffered in the crash. Five other persons injured have recovered or are recovering from their injuries.

Two accidents just outside the city limits claimed as many lives. Betsy Lou Rogers, 18, of Salem, was killed September 2, Labor day weekend, when a car in which she was a passenger smashed into a boxcar of a freight train in State street near the state penitentiary, a few feet outside the city limits. Her companion and driver of the car, Lloyd McKenzie, Salem, suffered serious injuries, but recovered.

West Salem Accident Mrs. Earl Lee Bates, 33, of Unionville, died in a hospital December 19 from a head injury received when she was struck by the tongue of a runaway trailer December 9 while riding in a car in West Salem. The tongue pierced the metal door of the car after breaking loose from a car headed the opposite direction and hit the vic struck head. Other auto accidents throughout the county took seven more lives.

Two persons were killed by trains. Mrs. Lillie M. Fisher, 74, Salem, died October 21 when she walked into the path of a slow-moving freight train one mile south of Salem near Minto. Glen Kilewer, 45, Hubbard, was killed when struck by a northbound freight train while walking on the tracks in front of his home October 5.

Tractor accidents in the county took two lives. Marvin Oscar Diarmit, 19, Scotts Mills, was crushed beneath his tractor on the Crooked Finger road two miles west of Scotts Mills on December 5, and Philip Miché Saucy, 15, was killed September 30 when his tractor tipped over

as far east as New York City, and south to Miami Beach, Fla., and Mexico, and home through California.

Almost all of the 48 states were visited and among friends visited was Dr. Mary Staples, formerly of Turner and now of San Francisco, who recently observed her 87th birthday. Dr. Staples plans to visit here next spring, she told the Schifferers.

QUARANTINE REVOKED The state of Nebraska has revoked its European quarantine, effective Jan. 1, 1948, the Oregon department of agriculture was advised Wednesday.

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