

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 25, 1851

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

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Dairy Co-op and Milk Committee

The Dairy Cooperative association occupies so dominant a place in the fluid milk industry in the Portland-Vancouver area that its activities and program are of broad public interest. It is not only the market agent for most of the milk produced in the region for consumption fresh, but it operates distributing systems in several cities and plans expansion in this branch of the business. Occupying as it does a near-monopoly position in its field it ought to be exceedingly careful in its public relations. So it is nothing short of amazing to see its officers at the annual meeting of the cooperative in Portland this week attempting to "smear" the Portland Affiliated Milk committee which has appeared at hearings under the milk control law on behalf of consumers.

Quoting from the Oregonian report:
Will W. Henry, general manager, declared the committee's efforts "to mislead the consuming public" follow communist party tactics.

The following is the Oregon Journal's quotation from the report of C. W. Jerome, public relations director:
"There has reared up in our midst within recent years a small group who are pleased to call themselves the Affiliated Milk committee, and though only a small handful of people, it endeavors to leave the impression that it represents all of the consuming public in the metropolitan Portland area. Public spirited men and women find this difficult to understand, however."

"Neither do they understand the activity of Dr. Maure Goldschmidt, professor of political science at Reed college. We must learn whether Dr. Goldschmidt, who incidentally is vice president of the Affiliated Milk committee, has become the spark plug of the committee, or through misunderstanding or for some other reason he proposes to make the college a spring board for the committee. Our task is to see that the public understands the situation, once we know it ourselves, and perhaps give the college a more complete understanding."

In presenting Jerome's report to the members, Will W. Henry, Co-op manager, commented: "Over our country a lot of people are trying to mislead the public and boys and girls going to college. It might be productive of some good if an investigation was made by the FBI in our own backyard in southeast Portland to see what is going on."

Henry said "some of the people" connected with the Affiliated Milk committee "are well meaning, but do not understand what they are doing."

Now Henry makes exceedingly grave imputations. In the one case the Affiliated Milk committee is imputed to be in parallel with the communist party, and in the other case, insinuation is made against Reed college because one of its professors is active as an officer of the committee.

What is the Affiliated Milk committee? It is a committee sponsored by the Federation of Portland Women's clubs. It has appeared quite regularly in milk control hearings as a consumers' advocate. It has not always been wise in its representations or reasonable in its conclusions; but it has been sincere in its interest in preventing extortion in the price of milk. It has been virtually the only consumer group that has appeared.

Certainly consumers have a right to appear or be represented when a state board or official under authority of law is holding hearings to regulate and fix the sale price of milk. This committee, composed as it has been of women of fine intelligence and high character, performing what they felt to be a public service merits no such smear as is implied in the comments or reports of the Dairy Cooperative officers.

The implication of these comments is that the Dairy Cooperative wants to dominate not only the marketing of milk but the legal authority empowered to fix the price of milk, that it seeks by smear tactics to suppress any group which presents the consumer case at open, public hearings and slurs by innuendo an educational institution distinguished for its liberal tradition.

These indeed are conventional tactics for monopoly, but hardly such as would be expected of a great cooperative of dairy farmers. This attitude is one of such arrogance as to merit public rebuke. Not by abuse of its opposition but by intelligent, affirmative presentation of its case will the dairy cooperative win and retain friends.

Whitney Hits Sawdust Trail

The papers told a few days ago of the "reunion" of Pres. A. F. Whitney of the brotherhood of railway trainmen and president Truman. Whitney is one who got a tongue-lashing by Truman in 1946 at the time of the short-lived railway strike. Then Whitney declared he would use the millions in the union treasury to defeat Truman in 1948. Now he has hit the sawdust trail and made political alliance with Truman.

Ostensibly the reason for the repentance is the Taft-Hartley bill, which bans the closed shop, although the railroad brotherhoods have not operated on closed shop contracts. And it was Bob Taft, when the real "slave labor" bill presented by Truman to cure the railstrike had shot through the house and was all set for speedy adoption in the senate, who rose and objected to the bill, prevented immediate action and later opposed the bill so it never passed the senate. In politics, men make strange somersaults.

Thomas W. Lamont

Thomas W. Lamont who died a few days ago was not only one of the country's foremost financiers (chairman of the board of J. P. Morgan & Co.), he was also one of its most worthy and eminent citizens. His contributions to public welfare both in money and in personal service cannot be computed now, but they were great. He was a trusted advisor of men in high station and a leader in many worthy enterprises.

People over the country who think of New York bankers as leeches and marplots have no idea of the vast load of public responsibilities which they carry outside of managing their own business. Lamont was one widely trusted both as a financier and as a leader in civic affairs. The whole country loses when one of his type passes.

The attorney general in Washington state has investigated charges noised about regarding Judge William J. Millard of the state supreme court. He digs up the facts that the judge wrote some NSF checks, also that he borrowed money on notes from men who operate pinball machines at a time when a slot machine case was pending in his court. Millard is the judge who changed his mind in the Puget Sound-PUD case and drew criticism from his colleagues for his delay in casting his vote in the case. Not a very pretty picture for a supreme court justice.

Weakness of commodity markets is probably the punishment of the longs who overstay the market. The price break is timely and will cool off the speculators who aided in driving prices as high as the moon. It may also educate those who think the price spiral will go on indefinitely.

A 3 per cent sales tax really beats a slot machine for a payoff. California received \$261,000,000 from its sales tax in 1947. Oregonians however resist the temptation for getting this easy (?) money.

BUS FARE BOOST ASKED
OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb. 5 (AP)—The North Coast Transportation company has applied for authorization to boost its bus fares 20 to 32 1/2 per cent between Seattle and Portland and intermediate points.



'Gay Caballero'

MATTER OF FACT

Inability to Spend ERP Aid Quickly May Provide Weapon for Backers

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop
WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 — The first crisis in the struggle for the European recovery program has begun already, even before the senate foreign relations committee has wound up its hearings. Sen. Arthur H. Vandenberg has informally opened the key question of the amount of ERP expenditure to be authorized, in talks with state department representatives over the weekend. To be crude about it, what is wanted is some artificial dodge or other, which will conciliate the ERP opposition, yet provide the funds needed for rebuilding war-torn Europe.

The budget bureau provided the argument for just such a dodge, by noting that difficulties of contract placement, voucher clearance, and the like, would hold ERP expenditures to \$4.5 billion up to July 1, 1949. This is of course far below the \$6.8 billion authorized by the act.

How these two figures are reconciled, by elaborate and quite convincing technical arguments, is beside the point. The point is that the budget was the real source of a plan by which the senate foreign relations committee would cut the \$6.8 billion authorization for ERP's first 15 months, probably leaving off about \$1 billion. Under this plan, the committee would

note that the cut was made on a practical estimate of the rate of efficient spending and not from any desire to limit ERP's scope of effectiveness. In fact, the committee would re-assess faith in a full-scale ERP. It would strongly endorse ERP's objectives, and it will indicate support for large-scale spending than now planned in the program's second year, when ERP would have hit its stride. At the same time, Secretary Marshall would accept the change, and maintain the facade of American unity.

The scheme has obvious practical advantages. In the senate at least, it would cut the ground out from under the opposition. Sen. William F. Knowland of California, for example, is a member of the drafting sub-committee of the junta of 20 opposition republicans organized at the behest, but not under the leadership of Sen. Robert A. Taft. Knowland has been in touch with Vandenberg. It is believed that he would support such a device, and could bring enough other members of the junta with him to leave the Wayland Brooks howling in a self-created wilderness.

The device now under consideration would, in effect, also defer the final decision on ERP until after the election, when the congress and the White House will no longer be divided by party. And yet this would be done without really restricting the rate of ERP spending in the interval. For the committee would endorse full-scale ERP effort. If, by some astonishing chance, the ERP administrator found he could spend faster than the senate foreign relations committee foresaw, he would have full moral justification to do so, and to ask the post-election congress for a deficiency appropriation. Thus the next congress would finally decide ERP's fate.

In point of fact, Secretary Mar-

shall and his aides seem to have had something of this sort in mind from the beginning, as a sort of last-ditch remedy in case of bad trouble. Whatever the amount finally provided, the money can at least be made to cover a full-scale effort until after the election. Then a new request for funds can be presented to the new session. There are reasons to suspect that representatives of foreign governments, dependent upon and worrying about ERP, have been reassured with this thought.

To Keep Original Request
The trouble in the present case lies in transforming what was planned as a last-ditch remedy into a concession at the beginning of the struggle. The political repercussions in Europe would certainly be bad, and might be catastrophic. Moreover, the house is far more hostile to ERP than is the senate. Whatever concessions are made in the senate, will be multiplied three or four fold in the house. Therefore, the state department is strongly inclined to stand on its original request of \$6.8 billion.

The trouble with this inclination of the state department is perfectly obvious. Secretary Marshall and his staff can stand on their original request as much as they choose. But if Sen. Vandenberg does not stand with them, the senate foreign relations committee will cut the \$6.8 billion. Sen. Vandenberg's management of ERP to date has been one of the most remarkable displays of tactical good sense, political wisdom and disinterested forbearance seen in congress in our time. He must deal realistically, however, with the results of the administration's failure to create any true sense of urgency in congress or the country. So long as this sense of urgency is lacking, the adoption of some such device as is outlined above is the best outcome. The question remains whether the administration will now awaken this sense of urgency by disclosing the grim political and strategic facts which were the real motives for ERP in the first instance.

Toastmasters Tourney to End On February 19

Elmer Amundson was toastmaster at the meeting of Capitol Toastmasters at the Gold Arrow restaurant Thursday night. Speakers were Marion Curry, Ed Potter, Julius Guinetti, William Bliven and Clinton Lemmers. General evaluator was Stearns Cushing, with Fred Remington in charge of table topics. Announcement was made that Thursday, February 19, will close the speech tournament and will be ladies night.

Fraternity Alums Invited to Banquet

Salem alumni of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity have been invited to a banquet at 7:30 p. m. Thursday, February 19, in the Heathman hotel, Portland, to honor William W. Hindman, Jr., Richmond, Va., national secretary, who will be in the northwest for observance of the 30th anniversary of the Oregon Alpha chapter at Oregon State college. Also to be featured is Prof. Frank H. Hamack of the University of Washington, new member of the fraternity's national executive committee.

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Public Records

CIRCUIT COURT
Verona Hazel Dotson vs. Harold Laverne Dotson: Order of default.
Violetta L. Rowan vs. Raymond E. Rowan: Complaint for divorce alleging cruel and inhuman treatment, asks \$200 monthly alimony and title to personal property. Married March 31, 1942, at Vancouver, Wash. Interlocutory order enjoins defendant from molesting or threatening plaintiff.
Alta Marie Hanson vs. Paul B. Cox: Case dismissed upon stipulation of parties.
Dorothy M. Core vs. Louis B. Core: Complaint for divorce alleging cruel and inhuman treatment asks custody of two minor children and temporary control of another. \$225 monthly support money for children and \$75 for plaintiff, \$15,000 in lump sum alimony and property settlement.
Thelma E. Peterson vs. Roy W. Peterson: Supplemental divorce complaint filed order to defendant to show cause at 10 a. m., February 16, why he should not be required to pay \$50 per month alimony and \$50 per month for support of minor child, each during pendency of suit.
MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS
Theodore A. Wagoner, 21, bank clerk, 1144 Center st., and Yolanda M. Robl, 19, domestic, 460 S. 21st st.
PROBATE COURT
Sarah Giles estate: Hearing on final account set for March 15.
G. W. Carroll estate: Appraisal of estate at \$5,825; order appointing Margaret A. Carroll as administratrix and Paul R. Hendricks, Helen Petre and Rose Crimaldi as appraisers.
Joseph Hughes estate: Order for license to sell real property.
Katherine Ann Barry estate: Hearing on final account set for March 13.
Edna White estate: Objections to inheritance tax determination of Nov. 6, 1947, filed by state treasurer.
DISTRICT COURT
James Richard McHone, 691 Rosemont ave., West Salem, violation of basic rule, fined \$5 and costs.
Marvin Franklin Fredericks, 1705 S. Commercial st., violation of basic rule, fined \$5 and costs.
Lloyd Allen Womack, 1620 Cross st., no mud flaps, fined \$5 and costs.
Charles Henry Dillard, 120 N. Elma ave., no operator's license, \$5 fine suspended upon payment of costs.
Archie Dell McGinnis, Salem, no operator's license, fined \$5 and costs.
Hubert Lindors Robinson, Portland, no operator's license, \$5 fine suspended upon payment of costs.
Theodore Chester Johnson, Fairview home, violation of basic rule, fine suspended upon payment of costs.
Richard Eoff, 1180 Oak st., charged with assault with intent to kill, being armed with a dangerous weapon, continued for plea for 24 hours, held in lieu of \$5,000 bail.
MUNICIPAL COURT
Kenneth B. Epley, Sheridan, violation of the basic rule, posted \$7.50 bail.
Harland H. Samson, Eugene, four in driver's seat, posted \$5 bail.
Edwin T. Popplitz, 1065 Garnet st., violation of the basic rule, fined \$10, and failure to stop at a stop sign, fined \$2.50.
Edward J. Diem, Salem route 2, failure to stop at a stop sign, posted \$2.50 bail.
Julius Vernon Rupp, 3236 Triangle Drive, violation of the basic rule, posted \$7.50 bail.

Police Begin Pistol Practice

Salem's police department began weekly target practice Thursday, with a shooting session in Salem armory under the direction of M. Sgt. Louis E. Painter, marine corps recruiter in Salem who won third place last summer in national pistol matches at Camp Perry, Ohio. Twenty police officers took part in the instruction session and fired 50-foot targets. Pistol practice again will be held next Thursday in the armory.

HEREFORDS COME TO VALLEY

Dick Ward, owner of Willamette Pooled Hereford ranch at Halsey, has bought 20 yearling Pooled Hereford heifers from the Job Lewis herd at Cove. These heifers, mostly of sires from the John Rice herd of Sheridan, Wyo., are a good group of foundation females to be bred to the new bull, C. Domino President 109th which Ward recently bought. He now has around 60 head on his ranch.

The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

SHOULD OBSERVE RULES

To the Editor:
If I may, I would like to address my comments to Miss Shirley Stark and others who are up in arms over the most recent accident that occurred at the 12th and D streets crossing. I have heard a number of requests voiced through the papers that a warning sign be posted at the train crossing. I wonder if these people who are making the suggestions will open their Drivers Manual. On page 18, under rules for designated speed, I quote: "At any speed, a car is out of control if the driver would not be able to stop it safely within the distance he can see to be clear and unobstructed."

On page 27, regarding railway crossings: "All vehicles must be brought to a complete stop before crossing railway tracks IF a crossing signal is giving warning that a train is approaching. Complete stops must be made, of course, at all crossings where stop signs are posted."

Just below this ruling is another stating that all buses carrying passengers MUST STOP at EVERY railway crossing. May I ask how many of our city buses have been involved in train collisions? If a bus driver can apply the brakes on the vehicle he is driving to "look and listen" without the need of warning signs, is it not the privilege and duty of every person driving a car to do likewise?

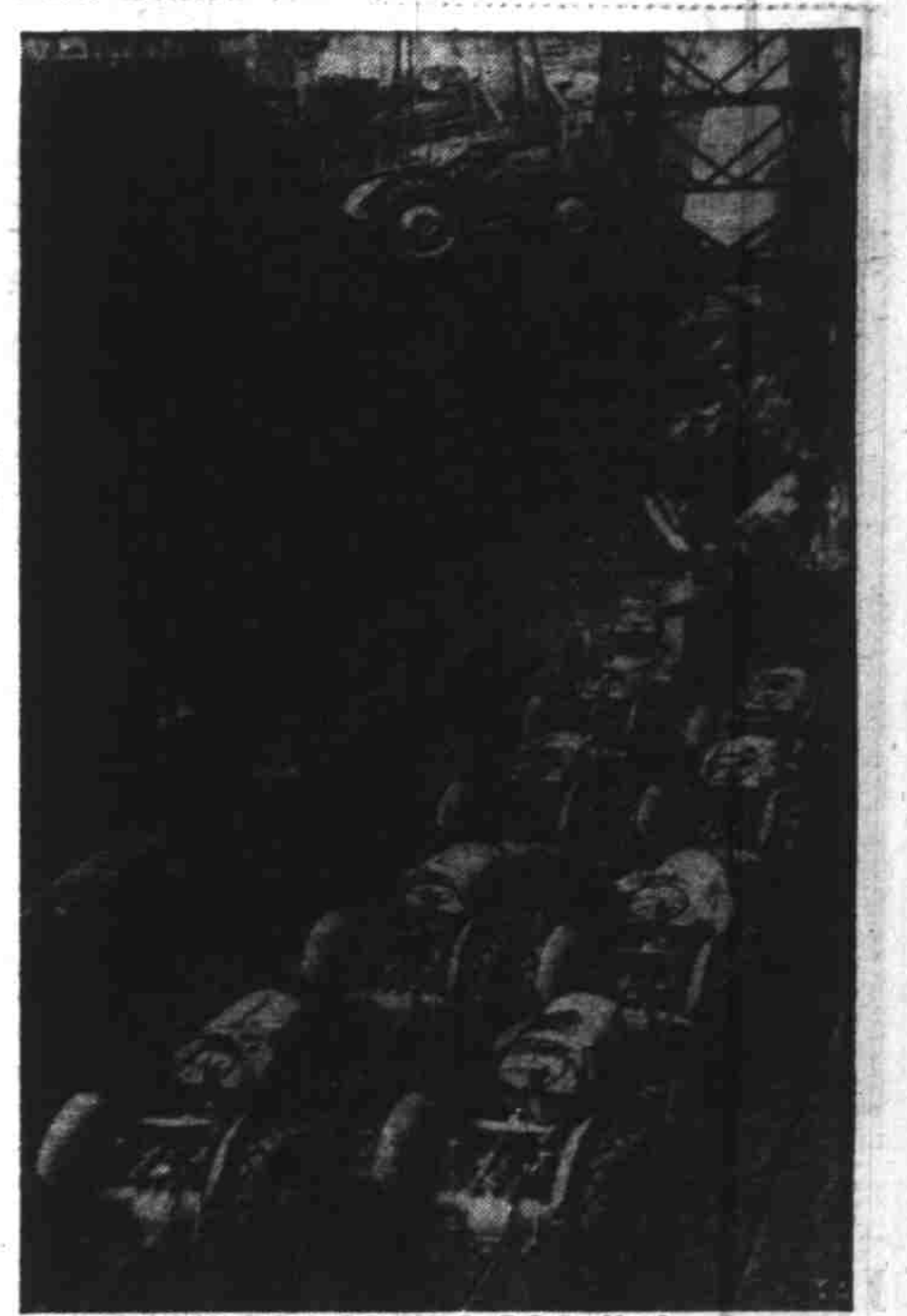
In the same paper that your letter appeared in, Miss Stark, I counted four arrests in the municipal court column due to "violation of a stop sign." What good are warning signs of any kind if people put, not only their own life, but the lives of others in danger by disregarding the driving rules that should be obeyed?

MRS. W. J. GALINIS, 2045 N. Liberty st.

Pittenger Trial To Begin Feb. 18

OREGON CITY, Feb. 5 (AP)—The trial of Police Chief L. L. Pittenger on a charge of assault and battery will open in circuit court here February 18. The police chief, accused of slapping an Oregon City youth in a traffic accident argument, pleaded innocent in circuit court yesterday.

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BRITISH TRACTORS FOR U. S.—First shipment of \$20,000,000 worth of British tractors for the United States is loaded on the transport "American Farmer" at Victoria Docks, London. Vessel is bound for Philadelphia.

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