

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Ave"  
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## Planning for Civilian Defense

The war department civil defense board, established late in 1946, hopes that international ability to maintain peace eventually will become more effective, but meanwhile, the United States should be ready to "maintain its security" since there can be no guarantee of a specific warning of attack. Any major war involving weapons of mass destruction directed at this country will require rapid total national mobilization of civilians.

The World War II office of civilian defense was dissolved in June, 1945, and there is at present no federal organization planning civil defense. But the war department board has studied defense methods in Great Britain, Germany and Japan and arrived at conclusions which prompted Secretary of Defense Forrestal to recommend a permanent civil defense agency.

The fundamental principles of civil defense are self-help and mutual aid—and those have to be learned, by individuals and by groups. Knowing how to administer first aid and spot enemy planes is not enough; sand buckets in the attack and black-out window shades are not enough. So the board has recommended that the "slow and tedious task" of creating a civil defense organization from the municipal up to the national level begin now.

First, a single permanent federal civilian agency responsible for planning, coordinating and directing civil defense, and perhaps a policy-formulating group at the cabinet level, are needed, the board suggests. Then, federal and state legislation is required to vest appropriate authority in civil defense agencies, and to coordinate Red Cross relief with the over-all program.

Duties of national, state and local government must be specified; these would probably include: organization; standardization of fire-fighting equipment and other protective services; mobile reserve units; reserve supplies of food, medicine, etc.; relief and rehabilitation of individuals; plans for emergency evacuation of large numbers of civilians; warning systems; passive defense measures; interstate mutual aid.

Industry and the general public must be educated regarding the nature of future warfare and possible effects on civilian communities, regarding the defense organization, dispersion, use of underground sites, protective construction, protection of communication and transportation facilities, etc.

The war department emphasized that the public cannot depend entirely on the armed forces for civilian defense; the military will have their own responsibilities regarding counterattacks and so on.

Obviously, a well-integrated civil defense program including provisions for immediate and adequate relief for people in target areas and plans for mass evacuation is of major importance. Total warfare is directed at civilians—there won't be time for military mobilization—and it is the civilian populace which must be ready to look after itself. Secretary Forrestal's program is a step in realistic planning for civilian self-defense.

## "Prizepackage Production"

Are you one of the contest brigade that has made radio competitions pretty much professional? Do you follow all the contests on the various networks and devote your energies to winning a goodly share of the loot that is offered?

That is a development in the current craze of radio giveaway. B. Mike in the Oregonian has been jabbing at the professionals and the way they garner in the gravy. He thinks there order be some sort of law setting a limit on their winnings.

The fact is that the whole business has become professionalized. Take the giveaway business. Here's the Mammoth Popcorn Co. which is running a contest and giving away a Ritz automobile, a Walrus refrigerator, a Broomless vacuum sweeper and other gear and gadgets amounting to \$10,000 in value. How does Mammoth Popcorn Co. do it? How can it afford such expense?

That is where the professionals came in. Men have worked up a business of providing for free the prizes to be offered by Mammoth and other sponsors. These brokers dig up the washing machines, curling irons, station wagons and wristwatches from the manufacturers. The payoff for the donor is to get his brand name mentioned over the radio, so he gets advertising for his Straps wristwatch or Stoopless washer.

The broker charges a fee for his service in getting the goods and displaying it to studio audiences. According to "Business Week":

These middlemen describe their job as "product exploitation," "merchandise counsel," "prize brokerage," and "prizepackage production." They may be retained either by the manufacturers or by the program; sometimes they even work both sides of the street. The manufacturer usually pays either in the form of a retainer or on a per-plug fee.

The brokerage business has developed into big proportions with several companies engaged in it both in New York and Hollywood. Considering the fact that the giveaway business amounts to from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000 a year, the brokerage offers a sweet thing in fees and commissions.

The whole contest business is a distortion of sound advertising no matter how much immediate profit the advertiser may see. The contests are often silly and absurd; the reported winners profit far out of proportion to any indication of excellence or skill; goods are cheapened in public estimation. Some day manufacturers and sponsors will wake up and realize they have made suckers out of themselves.

## "The Poor Man's Parnassus"

The first of a series of informal concerts of recorded music will be presented without charge to the public from 3 to 4 this afternoon at the YWCA building—a project of the YWCA young adults committee headed by Mrs. A. A. Schramm.

This enterprise will undoubtedly help fill a void in the community's recreational and cultural life. Any undertaking to promote understanding of good music in a public too often jaded by jukebox discord is worthwhile and should serve to heighten interest in the "live" concerts given here.

Furthermore record concerts provide an opportunity for owners of rare, unusual, foreign, out-of-print, or especially excellent recordings to share their libraries with other music-lovers. It is to be hoped that their audience will include, not only those academically interested in listening to works not commonly heard, but also those, who, hearing music, feel their solitude peopled at once.

From the former group, the sponsors can expect active participation. From the latter, no more can be asked than appreciative listening.

Soap powders are down two cents a package and bar soap from one-half cent to a cent a bar. No need to shed tears for the soapmakers yet, however. Procter & Gamble for example reported earnings of \$20 million last year but that was after setting aside \$28 million as reserve for possible inventory losses. Wire businessmen are not going to repeat the mistakes of post-World War I.

One prominent radio commentator, whose sponsor is a nationally known food concern, made a roundup of price changes on foodstuffs in various cities over the country and reported it in his program a few nights ago. Then he turned the program over to his colleague who came in to describe his spaghetti with language to make the mouth drool. There was one important omission however: he didn't announce any price cut.

## GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"Ois, what takes you so long dressing?—Anybody would think you had hair, complexion, fingernails or lips!"

## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

true that the influx of workers drew in many of criminal tendency both white and colored. But what grinds the negroes is that readiness of the whites to assign them to an inferior station, to a restricted residential district, to dead-end occupations, just because of their color. What they crave is economic opportunity and fair treatment as individuals.

It must be admitted that the prevailing white attitude, openly expressed in the south and quietly pursued in the north is that the negro should know his place and stay where he belongs." The north abuses the south for intolerance but nonetheless openly or subtly manifests its own race prejudice. Even laws passed to prohibit hotels, restaurants and theatres practicing discrimination because of race or color are ignored or evaded.

So there is need for education in tolerance. In fact it is fundamental. Such education is going forward in churches and schools. Race prejudice violates the creed of the Christian and the philosophy of democracy. Slowly people are coming to learn that others should be appraised on their personal merits and not rated and classified merely on the basis of color or tribe or creed.

## Harlow Ankeny on Winning Quartet At Forest Grove

A Salem youth, Harlow Ankeny, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Ankeny of 3995 Portland rd., is one of the singers in the Four Flats of Pacific college who won first in the Northwest Barber Shop Ballad contest at Forest Grove Friday. This is the second consecutive win for the college student quartet. Other singers are Dick Cadd and Ronald Creelius of Newberg and Norval Hadley, Albany.

Ankeny, a sophomore, is a graduate of Salem high school and served as Clarion editor in his senior year.

## The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

### Tax Rates

To the Editor:  
At the present time with local taxpayers being asked to authorize bond issues running into the millions and further bond issues looming up on the horizon it would be well for taxpayers to Stop, Look and Listen.

The present tax rates for the current 1947-48 tax year are as follows:  
City of Salem 22.4 mills  
School district No. 24 29.7 mills  
Marion Co. 17.1 mills

Total 69.2 mills  
With the sponsors of the proposed \$3,500,000 bond issue for school district No. 24, stating that it will add an additional 15 mills to the tax rates we will have, based on present rates, a tax rate of 84 and 2/10 mills.  
City Manager Franzen has stated that the taxpayers will in the near future be asked to authorize a sewer bond issue of \$815,000, which if approved will cause the city tax rate to rise and in all probability there will be an increase in the rate for Marion county, so that if all these proposals are favored by the taxpayers they should not be surprised at a tax rate of 90 mills.  
It does look like it is time for taxpayers to Stop, Look and Listen.

H. G. Damon  
891 N. Com'l. St.

### Other Claims to State Funds

To the Editor:

The proposal to make available for higher education some of the millions of dollars of surplus income tax receipts which are now idle in the state treasurer's office, may win popular approval, but there are other needs in Oregon that are just as great as that of higher education. At the last legislative session the ways and means committee trimmed the needed \$1 million dollar welfare or relief budget down to less than 44 million dollars. This shortage of more than seven million dollars in the welfare appropriation has caused untold misery, especially among the needy aged whose monthly old age assistance checks were reduced as a result. Many of these undernourished men and women who are forced to exist on small monthly grants are limited to one meal a day. They are often forced to live in basement or attic rooms, garages or shacks that are without proper light, heat and sanitary facilities, even though they pay substantial rents. Little or nothing is allowed for needed medicines. Their monthly budget allowance of five dollars for clothing has to be used to supplement their inadequate food allowance of 75 cents a day.

Yes, Oregon needs more money for higher education and for up-to-date school buildings and equipment and for decent salaries for teachers, but we also need to read the Commandment that says: "Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." There is plenty of surplus tax money to decently care for our elderly citizens, as well as our college boys and girls. Let us see to it that a part of such surplus shall be used for that purpose.  
Joseph E. Harvey,  
State Representative,  
Portland, Oregon.

## MATTER OF FACT

### South Putting 'Squeeze' on Truman For Civil Rights Stand Compromise

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14—The white supremacy southerners in congress are now talking among themselves about placing either Sen. Walter F. George of Georgia, or Sen. Harry F. Byrd of Virginia in nomination for the Presidency against Harry S. Truman. This underground discussion neatly balances the overt plan of the west coast left-wingers to put forward Henry A. Wallace as a suitable democratic nominee.



Stewart Alsop

One thing is already clear. This year's democratic convention is likely to resemble one of those awful children's parties at which large numbers of the dear little guests are apt to kick the stuffings out of the brave but fearful host. In his role as universal nursery maid to his party, the chairman of the democratic national committee, Sen. J. Howard McGrath, is going to have a pretty ghastly time preventing public mayhem. And this will be true even though the southerners do not carry out their threat to support a candidate of their own.

Overt southern support for a rival to Truman, even if limited to the convention, would almost certainly be going further than the southerners desire. The democrats have been in so long, that the southern leaders have almost forgotten the hungry misery of dwellers in the political wilderness. But some faint recollection of this horrid state still lingers in their minds. They are still reluctant to destroy their party's chance at the election. This is what may be expected to nip the overt anti-Truman movement in the bud, although the plan may be expected to be watered down with quantities of the same sort of northern money, that used to finance Gene Talmadge.

Aim at Platform Plan  
On the other hand, the strategy which the southerners appear actually to be adopting will be almost as difficult for the White House to handle. As of today, it seems probably that the southern state, including as a minimum South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama and Tennessee, will send uncommitted delegations to Philadelphia. The uncommitted delegations will be used to wrest from the platform committee a weasel declaration on the civil and human rights issue.

In the past few days, there have been anxious negotiations between southern leaders and White House representatives. The southerners dropped hints that if the White House continued so scornful of the south, the more violent expedient of sending overt anti-Truman delegations to the convention would have to be resorted to. The president may deny the intention of conciliation until he is black in the face. He may personally favor no such intention. But his representatives respond to the hints of southern leaders, by hinting in return that the president would in the end approve a compromise on the platform's civil and human rights plank. The southerners intimated that if such a compromise were forthcoming, they would then content themselves with holding a post-convention rally, as they did after the Wallace nomination in 1940. At this rally, they promise, they would give free rein to their propensity for oratory, but would end by resolving that much as they detested Truman, they hated the republicans even more.

Found Favor in Congress  
In congress, this plan has found favor almost, though the extreme white supremacy shouters like Sen. Olin D. Johnston of South Carolina. Meanwhile, some southern governors, like J. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina and M. E. Thompson of Georgia, have also sent assurances of eventual support to the White House.  
It is symptomatic of the state of the democratic party that in these dubious circumstances, the White House political strategists are breathing a sigh of relief. They are thankful for very little, these days. The arrangements outlined above are very little to be thankful for, because of two obvious drawbacks.

In the first place, any weasel words in the civil and human rights platform plank will enrage and alienate precisely the groups in the north at whom the president's civil rights message was aimed. Yet if the weasel words are not spoken, the uncommitted southern delegates will still be able to put forward their own man. In the second place, the present arrangements may be upset even before convention time, if the fair employment practices act becomes law at last.  
House passage of FEPC is a foregone conclusion. So is senate passage if cloture can be applied. Application of cloture turns upon four or five republican votes, including Senators Robert A. Taft, Harlan Bushfield and Albert Hawkes. Taft, it is known, will vote to approve cloture, although opposed to the FEPC bill. Hawkes is in a hard re-election fight in New Jersey, and the other waverers will be not uninfluenced by the fact that this is an election year. If FEPC passes, the

## Architects Offer to Advise State in Planning Capitol Group

The Oregon chapter of the American Institute of Architects has offered to the state board of control the services of its civic design committee for advisory consultation with reference to possible additions or changes within the state capitol group. The action was prompted by recent controversy over a proposal to locate portions of the capitol on the hillside, and a small museum in the mall in front of the capitol.

The letter to the board of control, signed by Holman J. Barnes as secretary, is as follows: "It has come to our attention that certain minor structures have been proposed for location within the state capitol group.

We know that you are as vitally interested in and as proud of your capitol group as we and would not knowingly place any buildings that would be detrimental to the group as conceived in the original plan. However, as time runs on and additional buildings become necessary, the group has to be redesigned in order that these newcomers may fit in harmoniously with the existing buildings. Thus the development and maintenance of beautiful surroundings for our capitol buildings would be assured.

With this in mind and due to our special training in planning and design, we wish to offer to you the services of our civic design committee as an advisory board to work with you and the City of Salem's long range planning commission on the location of all structures within or adjacent to the capitol group. Under this arrangement all proposed buildings and designs would be submitted to this board which would act similarly to the fine arts commission in Washington, D. C.

May we have your permission to act in this advisory capacity under your board as a public service to you and the people of Oregon?

## Seldom-Used Law Invoked in Drake Estate

The estate of Thomas E. Drake of Salem, who with his wife, Patricia, were killed in an automobile accident February 1 near Salem, is being probated in Marion county circuit court under a little-used probate law.

The petition to admit the estate to probate states that "it is to be presumed by law that Jean Patricia Drake, the wife of the decedent, died prior to the moment of Thomas E. Drake's death."  
Using this rule the petition concludes that the same real and personal property and probable insurance proceeds became the sole property of Thomas Drake on his wife's prior death, and so his estate alone is being probated.

Sole heir in an infant son, Thomas Lee Drake, John TeSelle was appointed administrator of the estate and W. L. Phillips, Burr Miller and Theins Streeter appointed appraisers. The Drakes and Bernice Weber, also of Salem, were drowned when the car in which they were riding left the highway and plunged into a slough alongside the Salem - Independence highway about a half mile south of the Salem - Dallas highway "Y".

southern fat will really be in the fire. In the ensuing bitterness and recrimination, anything can happen, and quite probably will.

congratulating the members and expressing pleasure at the campaign's method of reminding Y members that they are part of an international movement.



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