

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Next—Finland?

Finland has been a goose, laying imported raw materials on Stalin's doorstep, and now recent developments indicate that the Big Bear has decided to swallow the goose, reparations and all. More ominous than the Russian-manned Porkkala guns trained on Helsinki are the reports that Finland soon must lose her precarious independence and go the way of Czechoslovakia.

Stung by defeat in an unprovoked attack by Russia in 1940, the Finns were misled into a futile war with Russia in 1941. Since then things have not gone well in that small country. During the '30s Finland's pragmatic government tried to play both ends against the middle. Leaders kowtowed to Hitler even when nazis sank Finnish boats; they suppressed information about the Allies and the Finnish Gestapo took care of dissenters. Without the assent of a misinformed public, Finnish leaders allied themselves with Germany and were immediately bombed by Russians when Hitler attacked the USSR.

Belatedly, a war not their own became a fight to save their country. A Greater Finland movement emerged from their first victories, but the final result was loss of land and independence. The Russians demanded \$300,000,000 in reparations, a 50-year lease on the naval base of Porkkala and the Karelian isthmus. And the communist control of Finland moved in.

Two movements attempted to check gradual communist control. There has been an underground fascist movement, evidently a remnant of nazi collaborators. And there has been an ineffective socialist force, split into left and right wings. Both have been emasculated by Valpo, the communist-controlled secret police in Finland, thought to be connected with NKVD.

Post-war troubles were many. The housing shortage was made worse by the great influx of refugees from Karelia, inflation kept people concerned with day-to-day living, relief food was sometimes resorted to Russia or to the black market. Finns still had free elections, independent courts, their parliamentary government, and a nominally free press which nevertheless refrained from directly criticizing the Soviet Union although sometimes anti-communist articles originating in foreign press bureaus were printed.

But many top government officials were and are communist or soviet-controlled. The list includes Prime Minister Mauno Pekkala, the ministers of justice, education, social affairs, and food and supply. Yrjo Leino, minister of the interior, is head of Valpo and an acknowledged communist. His wife, Herita Kuusinen, is Finland's kingpin Red as head of the People's Democratic union.

Laurin Zilliacus, Finnish professor now at Columbia university, said recently in the Atlantic that it was fear of a possible general strike, brought about by communist-controlled Trade Union Congress, which has kept Finns toeing the line as far as Russia is concerned. A major strike would have caused Finland to fall behind in reparations payment. In that event, they thought, Russia would have no reason to spare them.

Evidently, Russia needs no "reasons to spare" anyone. When the time is ripe, Stalin discards mere business relationships; now he wants a "mutual friendship" pact—or else.

## Truman and Southern Democrats

President Truman appears a likely victim of the fission in the democratic party. His civil rights proposal has touched off a chain reaction, but it runs in reverse direction as far as his political fortune is concerned. The harder he tries to appease the left-wing liberals of his party, the more he offends the conservatives, and, on the civil rights issue, the southern branch of his party. Franklin Roosevelt effected a working alliance, but that was breaking down in the latter part of his career. Now it is completely gone.

The bitterness of the southerners is shown in the call of Governor Tuck of Virginia for the legislature to bar names of presidential candidates from its ballot. Voters would choose electors who would be free to vote as they chose. This would mean that electors from southern states could, and probably would, vote for Senator Harry Byrd or Senator George of Georgia instead of Truman, if republicans had a majority of the electoral college. They doubtless would vote for Truman in preference to a republican, however.

Oddly, that was the original conception of the electoral college—an independent, functioning body, not just men bound to do a service. With the rise of the party system, freedom of choice of electors was lost. Virginia's governor, in his proposal, merely goes back to the original method of electing a president and vice-president.

We shall hear more about civil rights, however, for democracy is on the march and men will no longer consent without protest to discrimination based on accidents of race or color.

## Let's Think Some More on Hawaii

Lieutenant Governor Coolidge of Massachusetts may or may not be right that Russia is planning "a new surprise attack on Pearl Harbor," but his allegations coming at this time are likely to be a damaging blow to those who hope the next congress will take affirmative action on Hawaiian statehood.

All the arguments against statehood have been based on two premises—that the islands are too vital and vulnerable to risk relinquishing federal control in any event, and that the heterogeneous population of the mid-Pacific is not cohesively indoctrinated in the principles of American democracy.

Coolidge gives rise to further study of both these premises, and he may have served a good purpose in so doing.

Regardless of the impression widely spread in this country, there still are reputable citizens of the Hawaiian group who look with foreboding on possible statehood. Some do it from a still-prevalent racial prejudice against possibly having a Japanese-American with voting powers in the halls of congress, although racial prejudice in Hawaii probably is at a lower ebb than anywhere else under the U.S. flag. There are others opposed to statehood on the premise that state autonomy would not work to the best interest either of Hawaii or the nation because of the divergent national backgrounds of the legislators who would be in control.

Coolidge's attack on "Moscow's secret agents" at least should inspire further sober consideration of the predicament we would be in should Hawaii be granted statehood and his prophecies even partially come true.

## Saving Our Scenery

The Bend Bulletin, ever alert to the beauty of Oregon outdoors and the need for protecting that beauty, turns a neat point when it comments:

Lately we have read of the proposal made that Oregon "develop" its scenic resources. We urge that our Oregon scenery has already been developed. What we need now is to save it, to protect it, to prevent its destruction by commercialism.

How, it may be asked, do we go about "saving our scenery?" Well, it's a simple undertaking. The thing is done when, in every possible way, we leave our surroundings in their natural state. We save our scenery when we refrain from breaking glass and throwing litter around on the top of Pilot Butte, when we keep our roadsides free from refuse piles, when we avoid mutilation of roadside trees by fire or in power or telephone line construction, when we keep borrow pits and material stock piles back and out of sight of the highways, when we discourage political placard and snipe sign advertising, when billboards are confined to commercial locations, when roadside timber is preserved.

## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

ancient religions: the conflict between Light and Darkness, Good and Evil, between Ormuzd and Ahriman, between Jahveh and Satan. We of the west have stood transfixed with horror to see the rape of Czechoslovakia, latest in a sequence of like events with countries occupying the old marches of mid-Europe.

Some have said that the conflict is a continuation of the centuries-old struggle between Asia and Europe: Persians vs. Greeks, Mohammedans vs. Catholic Christians, Tartars vs. Europeans. In part, that is true. In another sense, however, it is the product of social vulcanism: Forces of violence colliding with forces of established order. The chaos and confusion of the war's aftermath have opened the door for the ruthless to conquer by force and guile. Not till the fires of revolution cool or more vigorous forces of opposition exert themselves will the hot lavas of change and overthrow cease to engulf the land.

We of the United States are both participants and spectators in this drama. As citizens of the world, with a solid body of doctrine to defend, we are concerned with the way the contest goes. But, remote from scenes of action, we witness the performance with a certain degree of detachment. Fortunate are we that from a thus-far safe "coign of vantage" we can survey the world stage when events of such moment are transpiring. They rate with such periods as the fall of the Roman empire, the French revolution and the Napoleonic wars. The fate of peoples is at stake; history is in the making.

Carlyle quotes: "Happy are the people whose annals are vacant." By such test of this generation are the unhappiest of mortals. But Tennyson sang: "Better fifty years of Europe than a cycle of Cathay." Earth-bound, we should remain alert observers, fully aware of the fact that our fortunes are in the ultimate balance, that the stage for the present conflict is world-wide and today's spectators may be tomorrow's actors.

## Salem Men at Management, Labor Meeting

The theme of better understanding between management and labor, with the emphasis on human and personal relationships, was stressed at last week's industrial relations conference in Seattle, at which Salem was represented by Clay Cochran, manager, William H. Baillie and William L. Phillips, all of the chamber of commerce. The three returned here Saturday.

The delegates said talks by both management and labor leaders indicated that this country is not yet "out of the woods" as regards strife between the two groups. Most of the trouble was put to the "credit" of subversive elements. Speakers included Earl O. Shreve, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce; Almon D. Roth, executive secretary of the San Francisco Employers' association, and Clay Harris of the garment workers union.

## Magazines for Prisoners Sought

A request for books and magazines for Marion county jail prisoners went out Saturday from Sheriff Denver Young.

No provision has been made by the county to supply reading material to jail inmates, Sheriff Young said. Several local organizations supply literature, he stated, but the inmates still do not have enough reading matter.

"Any kind of books or magazines or other reading material would be greatly appreciated by these men," the sheriff said. "If enough books were donated we could maintain a small permanent library for the prisoners."

At present there are 30 inmates of the county jail.

## GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"We know Frisbee couldn't possibly live on the salary we pay him—but we naturally supposed he was going in debt like any responsible citizen!"

## The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

**Spills of Office**  
To the Editor:  
Evidently the communists in Czechoslovakia are really trying to organize and administer their new government as nearly like that of the United States as possible. They are throwing out of office all government personnel which does not agree with them.  
A. M. Church.

### Case of Evicted Woman

To the Editor:  
In this morning's paper the heading of an article drew my attention and I read: "Woman Evicted." Is this news or tragedy? Is this the Salem and U.S.A. I love and enjoy living in?

I imagine this unfortunate woman was told by the police to get her belongings off the porch and when she complied was probably pounced upon and arrested for vagrancy. What is vagrancy? To my knowledge it is being without funds for lodging and food.

Why lodge her in jail? Couldn't some of the funds we donate to the YWCA, Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc. be used to help this woman in her hour of need? Isn't that what these organizations are for?

It is evident she has no friends or relatives here to help her. Why must such cases go unnoticed? Where is our helping hand? Here we can apply the old adage of "Charity begins at home."

Is jail an answer to a case like this?

Mrs. E. B. Bullock  
1975 No. Front St.

**Editor's Note**—No one has to sleep in the street or on a porch in Salem because of need. The Salvation Army, with funds from the Community Chest, takes care of emergency cases. The public welfare commission takes care of those whose need is established. In matters where law enforcement is involved the police take charge.

## State Legislature Road Committee Adds Meetings

Dates for five additional meetings of the 1947 legislative inter-joint committee on state highway development were announced Saturday for The Dalles March 22, Pendleton March 23, La Grange March 24, Baker March 25 and Ontario March 26.

Purpose of the meetings is to obtain information relating to highway needs in various sections of the state and to study a financial program covering the cost of the proposed project. County

## CROWNED KING WELCOMES YOU!

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WHAT?  
WHEN?  
WHERE?



## 18 Salem Men On Cruise with Navy Reserve

Out to sea today for a two-weeks reserve training cruise on a destroyer escort are 18 members of Salem's organized navy reserve division. The men left here early Saturday morning and were to embark at Seattle today.

Their cruise on the USS Gilligan will take them to San Francisco, where all hands will have three days' shore leave.

The reservists are CEM Melbert E. Clemens, BM2 Wilmer Page, MM2 Charles W. Rowan, RM2 Eugene M. Jarvis, CM1 Bernard K. Wodziewoda, St John A. Voves, AS Harry F. Rubie, AS Arnold A. Bauman and AS Max R. Sunderland, all of Salem.

ETM1 Alfred E. Hunter of SK2 Dallas C. Spencer of Sheridan; AS Billy K. Daniel and AS James E. Kunz of Dallas; AS Orville R. Busby and AS Adair S. Mack of Aumsville; AS Richard D. Nienke of West Station and AS William E. Mertz of Stayton.

## Marion Forks Club Meets at Whites

MARION FORKS—The North Santiam Willing Workers met with Mrs. Opal White Wednesday. Present were Mrs. Mabel Barney, Reba Snyder, Charlotte Harris, Pearl Gebler, Betty Pittman, Bertha Reynolds, Mrs. Gordon, Nan Young and Dorothy Morgan and Mrs. Bray.

Mrs. Fred Sowers of Idanha and Bob Young of Marion Forks visited at Bend.

Al Weiner of the forest service staff at Eugene visited here Tuesday.

Recent visitors here were Nadine and Ralph Siegmund, Stayton; Carl G. Carlson and Edward

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| Hollywood Bed Frames, reg. 8.95       | 6.95  |
| Bath Stools, reg. 1.75                | 1.00  |
| Nite Stands, reg. 5.95                | 4.50  |
| Hardwood Chest, reg. 16.75            | 11.50 |
| 4 Drawer                              |       |
| 4-Drawer Chest, reg. 10.95            | 8.50  |
| Child's Chestrobe, reg. 27.50         | 22.50 |
| Magazine Racks, reg. 3.50             | 2.50  |

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House, Seio: Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Brewer, Seattle.  
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Adams and daughter visited the Youngs Tuesday.

## Boys Charged with Stealing Bicycles

Two Turner youths are being held in the juvenile ward at

Salem Memorial hospital following their arrest Saturday by city police on charges of stealing two bicycles at Washington grade school last Thursday.

The boys, 16 and 17 years of age, were arrested at Burk's Auction yard Saturday morning, a short time after they tried to sell the bicycles, police said. Their case will be heard in juvenile court Monday, police said.

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