

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Cost of Meat Inspection

Last year congress withheld its regular appropriation to pay the salaries of inspectors in meat-packing plants. This forced the plants to pay compensation to the inspectors if they wanted to continue to use the label "federally inspected" on their meat products. This year a big effort is being made to put the inspectors back on the government payroll.

At first sight one may say that this was one place where the government could save money, and that it is entirely proper for the meat packers to pay this cost, since they are the beneficiaries. The reply is that the real beneficiaries are the people themselves. Inspection is primarily a public health measure, and all consumers are protected by thorough-going meat inspection.

There is also this argument in favor of the government bearing the cost: Small packers may not be able or willing to pay the expense of the federal inspectors and compete with plants which do not ask for federal inspection. A large amount of meat sold in markets is locally butchered and receives no official inspection, either federal or state or city. Theoretically the state is supposed to inspect, but practically, in this state as in many other states, the force is not large enough to give the daily inspection that would be required. The temptation for the small packer, if he has to bear the extra cost, is to abandon federal inspection.

Small packers have continued federal inspection if they ship meat across state lines or if they sell to the government. In both those cases federal inspection is required. The president of the Western States Meat Packers association however says that 200 of its members will drop inspection if they have to continue to pay the bill.

Since federal inspection is an important factor in protecting the public its cost would seem to be a legitimate charge against the public treasury. Certainly we do not want less government inspection of our meats, which the present method may cause.

Vacuum in Washington

Walter Lippmann's message from Washington Sunday that Secretary of State Marshall, now in Bogota as sort of ambassador extraordinary, is needed in the nation's capital as sort of president extraordinary, points up the weakness of the Truman administration.

This commentator's analysis of Truman's predicament suggests a rider on a runaway mule—both control and sense of direction have been sacrificed to one aim: Hanging on for dear life.

Some time ago, it was announced that foreign policy-makers and the military were going to get together on decisions in order to dovetail diplomatic action with our ability to back up our words by military preparedness. The action of the house on aid to Spain shows how quickly military men began marching out of step with the state department. This could only have happened because there was no kingpin on hand to coordinate high policy. It was the same kind of blunder as the Truman okeh on Wallace's notorious anti-Byrnes speech.

Crises—and, make no mistake about it, this country and the world are in great peril, Lippmann affirms—demand men in authority who can make and stick to decisions which coordinate power and policy, means and ends. That is the function of a commander-in-chief. The president is the only American empowered to control the armed forces and financial and other agencies of the government. Truman has failed to perform the functions of commander-in-chief.

Secretary George Marshall seems to be better qualified than anyone else to handle the difficult and precarious job of supreme coordinator. But Marshall is off in Bogota doing public relations work. Why not let someone else hew wood and carry water for Latin-America?

World events are not going to stand becalmed until after the November elections. Russia will not stall around until the United States gets an administration better qualified to deal with international problems. Wishing Truman were someone else is not going to help matters.

Certainly Secretary Marshall, working in Washington as one consecrated, could help matters. He seems to be the only top man whom Truman trusts and in whom the American people have great confidence. There is a job to be done; the president is missing it up. He should see that it is done by delegating the duties of commander-in-chief as well as the authority needed to perform them to a man whose experience and record recommend him for that job. George Marshall is the man to fill the vacuum in Washington until November.

Oregon faces another form of enemy "infiltration." That is the enticement of our basketball coaches. Howard Hobson left Oregon to take a fine job at Yale and now "Slats" Gill of Oregon State is considering offers from Minnesota and UCLA. We hate to lose our good ones and maybe we will not have to lose Gill, but in the coaching game opportunities do not knock too often.

This incident of invasion of civil rights didn't happen down in Mississippi but in Columbus, Ohio, where a gang raided and broke up the home of a communist organizer. We don't like his brand of literature, but so long as he was acting lawfully he should not be molested. The case shows that abuse of civil rights isn't confined to the deep south.

"Bill for liquor by the drink." No, that doesn't refer to the cost of drinks but to a proposed initiative to permit sale of liquors by the drink by hotels, restaurants and clubs. The purpose of the bill is to roll up profits for the hotelkeepers, restaurant proprietors, etc. Voters should get ready to nail it to the cross with their crosses on election day, if it gets that far as probably it will.

A Minneapolis policeman shot himself in the head with his service revolver while playing an amusing little game known as Russian roulette. The rules are simple: remove all but one cartridge, spin the cylinder, put the gun to your head and pull the trigger. If your luck holds out, you may live. . . . Is this a national sport in Russia or did the communists introduce the game here as part of their fifth column work?

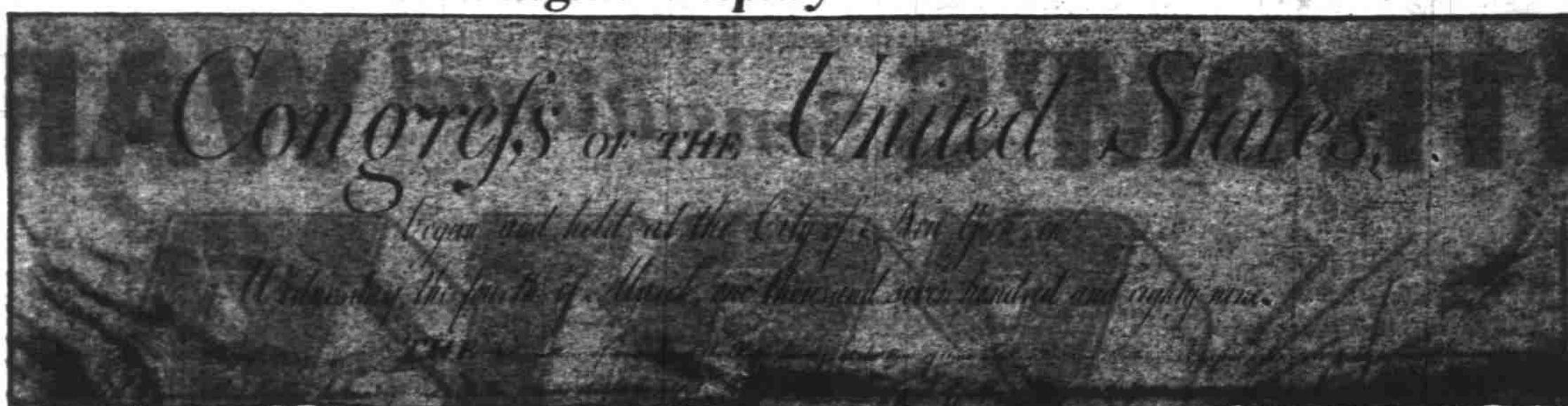
Composer Hanns Eisler, lately of Hollywood, is in Vienna singing the praises of the new "people's democracy" in Czechoslovakia. And the way he talks about Sunset and Vine! He sez Hollywood is filled with spies, secret police, persecuted liberals, etc. But he always neglects to mention that these nefarious characters are all on stage sets. . . .

Last year it was the flying discs which got the country disturbed. This year unaccounted-for submarines are reported. They are apt to be as imaginary as the flying discs which never seemed to land anywhere.

A quarrel over a bottle of wine at a hop ranch resulted in a homicide in Polk county over the weekend. This is the first wine binge which has got into the papers for some time. Restricting the sale of fortified wines to state stores has reduced the trouble from "winos."

Note to Winter: Here's your hat; why don't you hurry?

The Bill of Rights Displayed on the Freedom Train



In the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments to the constitution, protection of those "unalienable rights," asserted so eloquently in the Declaration of Independence, was written into the fundamental law of the land. The document known as the Bill of Rights, guaranteeing such precious liberties as freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and freedom of the press, is the joint resolution of Congress of September 25, 1789, proposing 12 amendments, only 10 of which were ratified and in 1791 became a part of the Constitution. It is inscribed on parchment and is signed by Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and John Adams, Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate. Faded though the writing be and yellow the parchment, this document symbolizes the extraordinary personal and civil liberties that are a cherished part of our American heritage. Lent by the National Archives.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

even to our own day. The word "sheepskin" survives as a designation for a college diploma, and probably some colleges still use parchment of the skins of sheep for diplomas. Willamette university law school did that until just a few years ago. The finer grades of parchment were called vellum, and this term has been borrowed for the finer grades of writing paper—those having a very soft finish.

Since a great many of the early manuscripts which are extant were done on parchment, including writings both sacred and profane, those which remain are the highly prized possessions of libraries and collectors. Librarians today would reiterate the emphasis of St. Paul: "the books, especially the parchments," in appraising their collections.

The fact is that the intrinsic value of the parchments or manuscripts is small. For if important, they have been copied and put into printed form or reproduced by photostatic process or recorded on film. The original tables of stone containing the ten commandments have long since been lost; but the commandments themselves have been printed in millions of copies of the Bible, have been taught to tens of millions of persons and now are woven into the laws and graven into the moral conscience of the world. The originals of the gospels have long been lost, but they have been printed into hundreds of languages and dialects.

So with the documents the originals of which will be on view today in the cars of the Freedom Train: their texts have been reprinted over and over again. School children learn passages from the immortal declaration of independence and from the constitution. Nevertheless these originals are a priceless possession of the American people. In viewing them one experiences the emotion of veneration which he never feels in reading their text in a common book.

The significance of the visit of the Freedom Train lies both in educating the people, informing them as to just what these documents are and also in stirring their emotions, exciting their loyalties and firing their zeal to preserve for themselves and their posterity the privileges which are embraced in these fundamental laws of our country. Then regardless of what happens to the documents themselves, to the originals whether on parchment or paper, the principles will survive. Unless we of this generation cherish those principles the documents will perish as far as their import goes, regardless of whether they continue to exist or not.

Paul felt the need of refreshing his mind by consulting the parchments which he owned. We too can profit by fresh study of the documents which form the foundation of the American republic.

MATTER OF FACT

B-29s Capable of Braving Soviet Defenses with Atomic Bomb Loads

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop

WASHINGTON, April 8.—The odds are still on peace. Yet for the first time the possibility of war—not next year, nor in five years, nor in 10 years, but war in the next weeks or months—is admitted by sober leaders of the government. It is time to take stock of our strength. It is time to ask whether if the worst happens, we really can deliver the knock-out blow, which will be the only means of avoiding a long, drawn-out, world-destroying war of attrition.

The answer to this riddle depends on two questions. First, does our monopoly of the atomic bomb really permit us to knock out a great land power like the Soviet Union? Second, have we the capability of delivering atomic bombs to the Soviet Union's vital centers?

No question is more bitterly debated by the services than the first. "The best that can be said is that the political and economic experts who have devoted their lives to studying the Soviet system believe that its war-making power will rapidly disintegrate if its vital centers are destroyed. If this is correct, everything depends on our own capability to deliver the atomic bomb to these vital centers. And this means, of course, that everything depends on the capability of our strategic aircraft to strike over great distances into the Soviet heartland."

Can B-29s Distant Targets? Recent rigorous tests show that standard B-29s, operating with standard crews, can strike at targets more than 2,000 miles distant and return on their mission. With this range, bases in the western hemisphere can not be used. But it is inconceivable that the Red army can simultaneously and instantaneously overrun western Europe, the Mediterranean, the Middle East and northern India. From any of these regions, aircraft with an operating radius of 2,000 miles can reach the Soviet heartland.

Furthermore, it may seem strange; but it is a simple operational fact that B-29s can now be equipped for re-fueling in the air. They are thus enabled to strike at and return from vastly more distant targets. The system sounds so much like one of the more lurid comic strips that most people find its effectiveness difficult to credit. But air re-fueling has been fully tested by the British, and has been used in passenger operations. With only one re-fueling on the way out, B-29s can strike at and return from targets 3,000 miles distant. Re-fueling on the way out and on the way home, they

can reach targets 4,000 miles distant. Modification of the B-29s to permit air re-fueling is just as important in Boeing's huge new modification contract as adaptation of the aircraft to receive atomic bombs.

Can Penetrate Soviet? Thus the capability to penetrate the Soviet heartland already exists. But can the B-29s, driving home the attack across the huge spaces of Russia, survive interception by high-altitude, high-speed German jet fighters which the Soviets have been hastily producing since the end of the war?

Here again, rigorous tests have been conducted with B-29 aircraft flying over an area with as dense and strong a radar warning system as now exists in the world. Of the B-29s engaged in the test, 60 per cent were located by the warning net. After location, fighters found 40 per cent.

Under war conditions, of course, only this 40 per cent would have been subject to fighter attack. Equally, of course, the B-29's defensive armament would have accounted for some of the fighters. The inference is that only a limited number of those B-29s would have failed to accomplish their mission, even against the heaviest odds.

But the Soviet Union, far from having a dense and strong radar warning system, has a warning system almost as feeble as our own. In the United States we have nothing that can properly be called a full warning system. It would cost several billions of dollars and demand the imposition of every kind of industrial priority to throw a true warning net over North America. The Soviets have, at best, limited warning nets narrowly surrounding their most important centers. This weakness would at least double the odds on the B-29s, and halve their percentage of loss. In short, the strategic air arm can do the job, according to the best calculations, or rather the best guesses, that can be made at this time.

Not Much To Gamble In the circumstances it is difficult to understand the decision to slight the air arm in the program for expanding the defense services. Secretary of Defense Forrestal has fantastically explained that putting through the repeatedly recommended 70-air-group program would cost \$15 billions additional. But this is a recommended peacetime strength, and the secretary's figure represents the total cost of mobilizing all the services on a war footing. The actual cost of the 70-group program would be about \$1.5 billions extra the first year and \$2.7 billions the second. It does not seem much to gamble on the only weapon which may perhaps prevent another war from becoming, quite literally, the beginning of a Dark Age.

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Loyal Warner Named to Head Oregon Chest; Study Planned

Loyal A. Warner, Salem business man, was elected president of the Oregon Chest at the corporation's fifth annual meeting here Monday.

Warner, president of Marion county Community Chest and head of the Warner Motor company here, replaces Dr. George W. Peavy of Corvallis. Charles A. Sprague of Salem and Dr. Peavy were elected executive committeemen and directors-at-large. Among officers, Linn C. Smith of Salem was elected assistant treasurer.

A motion to change the name from Oregon Chest to Oregon Community Chest received heavy support and was referred to the executive committee. The committee is to prepare the necessary legal papers to change the corporation's name and the matter will come up for final consideration in July.

It was voted at Monday's meeting to establish a chest reserve fund to cover deficits and to provide additional funds when needed.

Irl McSherry of Salem, executive director, and President Warner were assigned the task of arranging a study on the "great number" of fund campaigns being carried on each year by agencies other than the chest.

McSherry's annual report showed that \$394,955 was collected in the 1945-46 community chest drives. Of that amount \$376,742 has been spent on the 10 participating chest agencies and \$18,089 has gone for administration and campaign expenses, the report indicated.

Other chest officers elected include Frank L. Loneran, Portland, first vice president; Burt K. Snyder, Lakeview, second vice president; E. R. Fatland, Condon, third vice president; Stanley Earl, Portland, secretary; and J. J. Gard, Portland, treasurer. All were re-elected except Earl who replaced James T. Marr of Portland.

Other executive committeemen include Marr and Carl F. Frellinger, Portland, and A. L. Schroeder, Baker, both re-elected. The 14 directors at large are: Gard, Sprague, Fatland, Snyder, Frellinger, Earl, Marr, Loneran, Peavy, and William M. McAllister, Medford; S. Mason Thurman, Portland; Alton F. Baker, Eugene; William M. Ball, Bend, and John I. Sell, The Dalles.

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Lumbermen to Hold Conference

PORTLAND, April 5.—A two-day forum on the problems of independent sawmill operators, loggers and allied lumber interests will be held in the national guard armory here on April 30 and May 1. Known as the Oregon-Washington Sawmill conference and Machinery exposition, the event is being sponsored by Western Forest Industries association.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



Salem Secures Elevator for City Hall Use

An elevator has been purchased for city hall and may be installed this year if funds for the project can be placed in the city budget, City Manager J. L. Franzen disclosed Monday.

Franzen arranged purchase for \$500 of the elevator in the burned-out Guardian building, which is now being torn down. He said the elevator itself was untouched by the fire and the machinery can be repaired with little difficulty. It was purchased from Visiko & Post, contractor for the wrecking project and new office building to be erected at State and Liberty streets.

Franzen estimated an elevator shaft on the Chemeketa street side of city hall, new entrance there and actual installation of the elevator will cost about \$7,000. The elevator itself "is a bargain," he said, noting that the latest prices for an elevator which could be used in city hall are about \$17,500 (including installation).

Complete remodeling of city hall to make use of the third floor as city offices, an estimated \$66,000 project, will not be undertaken this year for lack of funds, the city manager said.

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