

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Canol Pipeline to Junk Pile

The most fabulous fiasco that wartime government expenditures paid for is just exactly that. All that is left of the \$140,000,000 Canol pipe line is now being trucked out of Alaskan hinterlands to junk dealers in the States.

The Canol (Canadian oil) project was a "Rube Goldberg gadget on a colossal scale," Richard Neuberger, Portland freelance writer says in the current American Mercury. It was a scheme to produce gasoline in the Arctic and free Alaskan highways and airbases of dependency on outside fuel.

Gold in the Klondike era was peanuts compared to oil during the war — or today. When James H. Graham on Lt. Gen. Somervell's staff in Washington heard that the vast oil field at Fort Norman on the Arctic circle belonged to a Canadian subsidiary of Standard Oil of New Jersey he dreamed up Canol. He proposed that crude oil be pumped 625 miles over a succession of granite peaks and tundra swales and muskeg soil to a refinery (brought up from Texas piece by piece) at Whitehorse on the Yukon. The catch was that he didn't know about the terrain at all.

At a total cost of some \$200,000,000, 16,000 men of the army's task force 2600 and civilian volunteers laid 1,600 miles of pipe and installed 400,000 tons of equipment, most of which was brought to Alaska during wartime transportation shortages. Soldiers died of pneumonia and tuberculosis, and their morale was as low as the 73 degree below zero temperatures. But — several years behind schedule — they did complete a freight artery down the MacKenzie river from Norman to Whitehorse.

Meanwhile, Standard of New Jersey, owner of the estimated 100,000,000 barrels of Arctic oil, and its chief competitor, Standard of California, fought bitterly because California had been hired by the government to develop New Jersey oil. California experts told Secretary of Interior Ickes that the Canol project smelled. The Truman investigating committee found that it did.

The total output (479 barrels aviation gas daily) was scarcely a drop in the bucket of wartime needs. So the grandiose scheme was abandoned and the refinery, installed at a cost of \$24,000,000 was sold for \$1,000,000.

But there may be on redeeming factor in this now-it-can-be-told story. Neuberger points out that the pitchblende from Port Radium which formed the basic ingredient of World War II atom bombs, was brought to the States over the route built by Task Force 2600.

Barnyard Ballyhoo

The United States may have the atom bomb pat but the Russians have just announced something that beats anything this country or anyone else has been able to produce. The "Kostroma," as it is called, isn't really a secret weapon although it may precipitate a new kind of Russo-American rivalry.

It should, at the very least, electrify the scientists at Cornell. For the Kostroma is a new bovine breed for which the Soviet news agency Tass, waxing bucolic and eloquent, claims all kinds of distinction. One of these cows named "Opynitsa" has produced 22,000 gallons of milk since 1929 and still fills an 18-quart bucket daily, Tass reports. Another bossy named "Skeham" yielded 10,995 pounds of butter in 10 years. Undoubtedly, these loyal workers for Stalin have been awarded the Legion of Stakanov medal and will have their busts placed in those feats put to shame Loneim Texal Happy and Foremost the Kremlin.

Royal's Rose, Canadian and American champions who thought they were playing first string. All of which should fill our placid and contented Jerseys and Guernseys and Holsteins with righteous indignation and prod them to patriotic production unmatched heretofore. Then that Opynitsa may find she's been outstripped!

At the San Francisco conference on United Nations in 1945 American delegates pushed plans for a World Health Organization under U. N. Now, with 24 U. N. member ratifications of the WHO charter already certified, the house rules committee in Washington has shelved the ratification resolution with no explanation whatever. U. N. officials cannot understand why the U. S. would block the international nonpolitical "war against microbes." If the house committee fears that WHO might lead to international socialized medicine, it is "deliberately sacrificing better world health for a bogeyman that does not exist," U. N. people said. Evidently, Americans are unwilling to fight world wide physical disease because of a mental disease called "political antagonism."

A University of California at Los Angeles provost has announced that "steps are being taken to deal with communist party activity on the campus." The L. A. Times "exposed" 30 communist party members on the campus and said there were 400 active sympathizers. Drastic steps, such as expelling communist students, would defeat the original action of bringing communist activity and tactics to light; it would only drive subversive activity further underground and might net more "sympathizers" for under-dog students.

First Russians apologize for their pilot who crashed into a British plane over Berlin and killed all its passengers, and now they switch all the blame on the British plane. Maybe that's because the Russians thought Bevin was accusing them of some dire misdeed when their apology caught him off guard and he mentioned something about "goodwill" on their side.

The Wagner act confirmed to labor the right to bargain collectively with employers through "representatives of their own choosing." John Lewis however would deny that right to employers. He picked the employers he was willing to talk with and refused to meet with other employer representatives. Lewis is getting too big for his eyebrows again, and Judge Goldsborough will have to reduce him to size once more.

Harry Truman has one supporter in the coming campaign — Boss Hague of Jersey City. Doubtless Boss Jim Pendergast of Kansas City is still for him too, though the national democratic committee isn't publicizing the fact.

Finland got off with a "light sentence" in the recent conversations in Moscow over a treaty. The Russian glove may be of velvet but the grip will be of iron if trouble comes. The Finns haven't forgotten 1940.

This is the season when favorite sons get their vanity inflated when they see their names mentioned as possible nominees for the presidency. Why is it friends feed them taffy and never tell them the political facts of life?

The average farmhouse in America is said to be 50 years of age, and altogether too many of them look to be 100.

BOY DROWNS IN SLOUGH

VANPORT, April 7-(P)—Five-year-old Ronald Skinner drowned in a Williams river slough today near his home here when he tumbled from a make-shift raft. Sheriff's deputies said the boy was floating on a house door.

COMPANY INSPECTED

Cannon company of the 41st division's 166th infantry regiment was inspected for federal recognition last night at Coos Bay. Capt. Wilbur McDonald is company commander of the national guard unit.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

which is neighbor to his own. He ran quite well there in 1944 when he made no personal campaign. He made a thorough personal campaign over the state. His well balanced views on public questions appealed to Wisconsin voters. Then he had a strong campaign organization, with Tom Coleman, a staunch anti-LaFollette republican as a leader. Senator Joe McCarthy supported him actively. The Stassen campaign has been well financed, largely by Minnesota friends I understand, and the Stassen literature has been well prepared and disseminated.

If the Wisconsin result does not eliminate Dewey neither will it insure Stassen's nomination. But it does move Stassen well forward into the "king-row." The next test will be Nebraska, which is a free-for-all, with names of Taft and Vandenberg added to the Wisconsin entries. Taft is expected to make a good showing there because of the support of Sen. Hugh Butler. A defeat of Dewey in Nebraska would seriously cripple his chances. It would imply that he had shot his bolt with the voters in 1944. The Oregon ballot in May will have only the names of Stassen and Dewey on the republican ballot. That will give a measure of the popularity of each on the west coast.

To conclude: The victory for Stassen in Wisconsin is most heartening to his supporters who admire him for his forthrightness, his candor, his intelligent grasp of world and national problems. They will have to press on though to clinch a final victory.

Pete Sorenson, Silverton, Dies From Injuries

Pete Sorenson, sr., 66, Silverton, died in a Salem hospital Wednesday morning from injuries suffered in a truck accident on the Chemawa-Silverton highway Tuesday afternoon.

Sorenson sustained head injuries, fractured ribs and a right shoulder fracture when a truck in which he was riding overturned at 4 p. m. Tuesday. The driver, Ed Janz of Silverton, turned off the highway attempting to avoid hitting another truck which had overturned ahead of him, state police said.

Janz received a hand laceration and a third passenger, Buster Benton, also of Silverton, was injured.

Sorenson, former operator of a Silverton pool hall, was born in Denmark and came to America in 1922. He lived in Illinois for several years before moving to Silverton. His widow, Mrs. Margaret Sorenson, was in Illinois attending her brother at the time of the accident, and is expected to return to Silverton Saturday.

Other survivors are a son, Pete Sorenson, Jr., and three grandsons, Richard, John and James Sorenson, all of Silverton.

Announcement of funeral services will be made later by the Ekman Funeral company at Silverton.

DeMolay to Install Youths

Twenty-three local youths will be installed into offices in the Salem Order of DeMolay Monday night at 7 o'clock at the Masonic Temple, officials announced Wednesday.

The public is invited. Refreshments will be served.

New master counselor to be installed is Robert Seamster. Other new officers are: Beldon Owens, senior counselor; Neil McCrary, junior counselor; William Rock, senior deacon; Richard Fuhr, junior deacon; James Zwasschka, senior steward; Bruce McDonald, junior steward; Jerry Taylor, orator; Richard Bladorn, scribe; Louis Lorenz, treasurer; Wilfred Logan, chaplain; William Armstrong, marshal; Granville Perkins, standard bearer; Robert Sharp, sentinel; Dan Osburn, almoner, and preceptors, Wilbur Bower, Jerry Beckle, Ralph Wilson, Daryl Walker, Steve Benson, Jack Geer and Edgar Michelson.

Salvation Army Planning Board Meets in Salem

A meeting of the Salvation Army state planning board in Salem Wednesday laid plans for a state planning board conference in Portland May 12.

The conference would follow a meeting of state social welfare groups. Speakers and general problems relating to the Salvation Army's service to communities, to be brought up at the May conference, were discussed Wednesday.

Maj. Henry Koerner of Portland presided at the meeting. Others in attendance included Capt. R. B. Leshner and Adj. Bruce Leshner, both of Salem; Brig. Fred Ohra and Maj. Helen Smeeton, both of Portland, and Adj. Charles Rosnick, Medford.

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GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"In times of crisis, Mr. Snodgrass, we feel it our duty to hand people a laugh!"

MATTER OF FACT

Policy-Makers Back Senate-Ratified Military Pact with Western Union

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop

WASHINGTON, April 7 — The next and biggest step of all is just ahead. The nations of the newly formed western European union — Britain, France and the three Benelux countries — want a formal treaty of alliance with the United States. The American policy makers of the executive branch, after careful consideration of the problem on the highest level, have already made up their minds that this revolutionary departure from the old traditions of American foreign relations is now urgently necessary.

If Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg and other congressional leaders approve the project, therefore, a treaty of alliance between the two branches of the Great Atlantic community will be placed before the congress at this session. If so great a venture is considered too difficult at this time the president will seek bi-partisan support for a declaration of American military support for the western European union. But what is really wanted

is a formal sense of the United States — ratified alliance, within the framework of the United Nations, on the rough pattern of the Rio pact.

This will not mean, however, that the United States will merely join Western Union as the sixth participating nation. The Western Union nations have special political and economic interests which do not concern the United States. Indeed, it is hoped that in time Western Union may form the kernel of a United States of Europe quite independent from this country. For this reason among others, the proposed pact, if the senate leaders approve, will be a written understanding between the United States on one hand, and the western European nations on the other.

Firm Commitment
Such a pact will amount in practice to a firm commitment by the United States to go to war if Western Union is attacked by Russia. Inevitably, it will involve close collaboration, both military and political, between this country and Western Union, and probably revived military lend-lease as well. Consultations are already quietly under way among the five Western Union nations looking to the establishment of a permanent secretariat, responsible for joint planning and joint staff work. This body is likely to be set up soon, probably in Paris or the Hague. American political and military officers will undoubtedly be attached to this body in a special capacity.

Largely depending on the advice of Senator Vandenberg, the idea of a formal alliance may be postponed. In that case, the device of a declaration of support for the western European union will be resorted to, and something similar to the relation between the U. S. and Canada will emerge. No alliance between the United States and Canada exists. Yet President Franklin Roosevelt

made what amounted to a clear commitment to defend Canada against aggression when he asserted that the United States could not "stand idly by" if Canada were attacked. During the war a system of joint military consultation was developed, and although no treaty has been signed, this joint staff system still prevails.

In the same way, an official announcement could be made in effect committing the United States to go to the aid of Western Union if attacked. A joint staff system would then be established, on the pattern of the American-Canadian system, or the existing Anglo-American combined chiefs of staff.

More Formal Pact Likely
Yet a more formal pact, ratified by the United States senate, now seems the more likely outcome. The reasons are simple. A unilateral declaration by President Truman on the pattern of Roosevelt's statement on Canada, would have the virtue of not requiring senate ratification. But it would have little meaning unless it had obvious and overwhelming bi-partisan support. This is so simply because it is now probable to the point of certainty that Truman will not be president of the United States a year from now. If a unilateral declaration is made, some technique for demonstrating bi-partisan support must be evolved. One possibility is a resolution sponsored by Vandenberg in the senate.

But it is obvious that in any event unequivocal support in the senate will be required. It is equally obvious that a formal pact, ratified by the senate, will have a far more important political and psychological effect, both in Europe and on the Kremlin than a simple statement of intention. It would strengthen the Western Union immeasurably, and lay a foundation for the organization of the whole non-Soviet world. It is illogical to hold back, moreover, for the simple reason that the United States is already inescapably committed to the defense of the western European countries against armed Russian attack. Thus a written treaty will merely dramatize and place on a formal footing an already existing situation. The wiser congressional leaders, and especially Senator Vandenberg, may be expected to recognize this fact. That is why, although there is little doubt that such astigmatic statesmen as Senators Wherry and Brooks will hold out to the end, the dramatic step of publicly recognizing the paramount American interest in the freedom of western Europe may soon be taken, with all its accruing benefits.

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The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

OWNING THE FISHERIES

To the Editor,

As to commercial fishing in Oregon rivers, I'll say, as fish are self-producing, different from wheat or cattle, the private fishing companies' greed immensely injures both the food supply and tourist traffic. I know this to be true at the mouth of the Rogue. It may be best for the counties to own the commercial fishing, and not private persons.

Frank Van Camp

Jean Sevilleir Succumbs at Delake Home

Jean M. Sevilleir, former announcer for radio station KSLM and merchant in Salem, died unexpectedly at his home in Delake where he had resided since December, 1946.

Sevilleir was born in Spain and was educated in Europe, where he received a degree in medicine. He practiced as a physician and research worker until ill health forced him to retire a number of years ago in California.

Prior to moving to Salem, Sevilleir lived in New Mexico where he endeavored to regain his health. He gave up medicine and went into radio and speech work a short time later and became associated with the University of Oregon speech department before coming to Salem where he became one of the first announcers on KSLM's staff.

After leaving the station, Sevilleir operated a toy store and recording shop on North Commercial street, at the same time doing private tutoring in radio work and drama. At the time of his death he was owner of a novelty toy and recording shop at Delake.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Kay Sevilleir and a daughter, Valerie Jean Sevilleir, both of Delake. Time of funeral services, to be held at Delake, will be announced later.

State Jobless Pay Benefits Drop Slightly

State unemployment compensation benefits in March totaled \$978,153, a drop of 1 per cent from March 1947.

Veterans allowances totaled \$803,654 in the month, a decline of 6 per cent from March, 1947.

The state unemployment compensation commission predicted April benefits would decline sharply because claims for recent weeks are 10 to 20 per cent less than a year ago.

Donald Henderson Sent to Marianas

GUAM — Pfc. Donald Henderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Henderson, 1296 N. Commercial st., Salem, Ore., is assigned to the

maintenance division of the Marianas Air Materiel area, the service and supply agency that serves the strategic units of the Far East Air forces.

Henderson is a member of the 19th air repair sqdn and works as an aircraft mechanic.

Henderson, who attended Salem high school, and later worked for his father in the construction business, thinks he would like to go back to school at the termination of his present enlistment.

Lester DeLapp

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