

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY
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Potato Chips

A Washington dispatch says: Insiders estimate that the department of agriculture will buy up more than 12,000,000 bushels of potatoes to keep U. S. potato prices high this year.

The purchase is required by terms of the old Steagall amendment to the agricultural legislation at the start of the war. The late congress has extended the present law another year, and provided for a succeeding scale of parity payments after that. The reporter however told the truth quite bluntly: "to keep the price of potatoes high this year."

And what will the government do with the 12,000,000 bushels? Keep them off the market, sell them for hogfeed, spread them on the ground to rot? "to keep the price of potatoes high." Our government is deeply concerned over inflation; but rising food prices are often the base for inflation. They justify wage increases which in turn justify price increases. In normal markets excess of production results in price declines; but where government props up the prices the decline is averted. How may we expect price stability if prices of major farm products are free to move in only one direction?

Incidentally we see that Oregon potato growers are talking of legislation to set up a state potato commission, like the dairy commission and the wheat commission. The plan is the same: tax the growers (a cent and a half a sack on potatoes), pay it into the state treasury, appoint a board to spend the money for advertising, market promotion, improvement of seed, etc.

The purposes are not without merit; but we wonder how many special boards will spawn under the new program. The wine people asked for a special board at previous sessions. Other crops may be made the subject of industry promotion by means of a state tax. We can see where the scheme of invoking the state tax-levying power for these special purposes may run into the ground. In fact it has already—it's digging up potatoes.

Needed: Some Salt

Polygamy is a very serious thing. Especially when a man has 600 wives. And especially when the United Nations is concerned.

Take the 80-year-old Fon of Bikon who is reported to own a harem of hundreds of teenage damsels in his African stronghold in British Cameroons. He almost precipitated an international incident. The United Kingdom advised the United Nations trusteeship council that the aged ruler really only had 110 wives, 44 of whom were inherited from previous monarchs—just routine trappings that go with the crown. But council members were worried about those rumors about the 600. One lone council member, the Iraqi delegate, suggested the Fon was doing all right without U.N. interference. But his opinion—he's a bachelor—apparently was discounted.

The United States delegate proposed that the council "take note but remain neutral and pass the buck to the U.N. commission on human rights. There was a spirited debate over whether the Fon was violating any fundamental rights of women. The Iraqi bachelor stated the United Nations had no business tampering with any fundamental rights the Fon might have.

The council body of trusteeship experts considered all sides of the matter of the dead-pan and arrived at no solution. That's no surprise. What is surprising is that some of the questions United Nations delegates find on their agendas are not as world-shaking as others, and you'd expect the UNsters would welcome any remedy relief.

Such, evidently, is not the case.

On the other hand, maybe 600 wives is no joke at all.

Query for Russian Apologists

Who wonder what apologists for Russia (like Henry Wallace) have to say over the barrier to rail transport which the Russians have set up against the western powers. The real sufferers will be if the blockade continues, the German people, 2,500,000 of them in the western-controlled sectors of Berlin. They are the ones facing starvation if the blockade is effective.

What does Mr. Wallace recommend at this juncture? Should the western powers tuck their tails between their legs and pull out leaving the Berliners in their portions of the city subject to Russian rule? Would he have the western powers call back their new currency and let the inflation continue to rage and the black market to flourish? Can he suggest any formula for agreement with the USSR short of capitulation to virtually all of their demands?

By the very law of averages the United States can't be wrong and the USSR right ALL the time; a fact which the apologists for Russia fail to recognize. In the current controversy the blame does not rest with the western powers but with Russia for withholding all cooperation.

Federal Spending in Oregon

Senator Cordon computes that Oregon's portion of special federal appropriations for the next fiscal year will amount to \$70,000,000. The largest single item is \$22,000,000 for the McNary dam. Flood control, under which the Willamette valley project items are included, will run to over \$16,000,000. The Bonneville Power Administration will have about \$12,000,000 to spend in the state and the reclamation bureau over \$4,000,000.

That the sums are so large is due in large degree to the effective service of the senior senator from Oregon, who is a member of the senate committee on appropriations. Congressman Stockman is on the house appropriations committee.

We are selfish enough to relish the immediate spending, but of greater importance is the contribution much of this money will make to the permanent economic development of the state. Expenditures for power, reclamation and much of that for flood control is in the nature of a capital investment that will yield returns into the distant future.

California calls one of Oregon's ablest young men to a top post in that state. Harry S. Schenk, former manager of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers' association and for five years assistant secretary of state under the late Robert S. Farrell, jr., is to be executive vice-president of the California Manufacturers' association. The job is an important one in California's rapid industrial expansion, and has a major bearing on the development of the west. Schenk will bring to the position an abundance of energy and particular qualifications in the field of public relations.

Monroe Sweetland, Newport publisher who was elected democratic national committeeman, has undertaken to revitalize the democratic party in Oregon. It's a big task, but he is making an appeal to the younger element of the party which is still bug-eyed over FDR. The state needs a stronger democratic party, free of the moribund leadership of recent years.

Put out that campfire; crush fire out of that cigarette, don't toss it onto the highway. The forest fire season is on us. Be alert to all the fire-safety rules and do your part to keep Oregon Green.

The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

Supports Manager Salary Increase To the Editor:

I have noticed that in considering the city budget, question has been raised as to the salary to be paid to the city manager. It has been my privilege to visit and inspect a number of the projects that are being directed by our city manager. It was in the interest of economy and efficiency that Salem moved to the manager type of city government, and it is in the interest of economy and efficiency that I write this letter expressing the point of view contained in this letter. It will have to be kept in mind by the public that if we are to have a continuation of the excellent services we have had in recent months under this new form of government, the first imperative is that we shall have and hold the right leadership.

Probably no single item of expenditure has brought or is now bringing greater savings to Salem than the office of the city manager. It is true that there have been additional expenditures for items that Salem has long wanted. The economy, however, by which these new improvements are being accomplished is entirely attributable to the leadership and executive ability of our city manager. It would appear therefore that the public must keep in mind, as it seeks such services and attempts to retain such services, that the guide by which we pay our city manager should not be based upon the salaries paid to persons in political offices. Persons in political offices seek those positions influenced by the honor attached and usually on a temporary basis. Such offices rarely carry with them salaries commensurate with the position. On the other hand, when we seek out leadership for positions such as required in a city manager, we must pay the type of salary that is paid to such executives in other businesses. Industries and the businesses of Salem do not hesitate to pay salaries equivalent to that suggested for our city manager, and in many instances pay far in excess of that amount because they have found that such salaries are economy to them and savings in the long run.

Our city manager is a trained engineer. Our city manager has a great deal of experience. He has chosen to use these qualifications for private return and in private business, undoubtedly his income would have been far in excess of that which the city now contemplates paying him. In the interest of keeping such executive leadership at the head of our city government, it seems to me that the council and budget committee should be commended for its stand in suggesting a salary that can hold and maintain such leadership.

Very truly yours,
Roy Harland
1849 State Street
Salem, Oregon.

(Editor's Note — The Statesman admits the value of services rendered by the city manager and recognizes the need for adequate compensation. It feels however that the increase of \$1500 a year, after the brief tenure of the incumbent, to a level higher than many state salaries — of the highway engineer for example — was too large.)

TOMMY-GUN IN HOPE CHEST

To the Editor: My attention having been called to the advertisement appearing in a California paper, and reproduced on your editorial page, I venture to inform you that, by moderns, the following piece is considered passe.

Today, if I am correctly informed, a gold fluted "tommy-gun" should be included in each troupeau, with handbook of instructions in its use.

Really, you have no idea how perfectly devastating a lovely young widow can be.

In admiration of "the six o'clock hold and the trigger pressure," as we riflemen say, I remain

Yours,
DORRANCE WIGGINS,
3325 Liberty rd.

OPPOSES PEDDLER BILL

To the Editor: Here's a true story which might have some bearing on the peddlers' license bill now before the city council:

In Portland a few years ago a salesman obeyed the orders of his firm, refused to pay a license and was taken to jail. He asked the desk sergeant if he might send a telegram to his firm explaining his failure to send daily reports as required. The sergeant consented and the man sent the code message prescribed by his firm. In about two hours one of the most important lawyers in Portland appeared and demanded his immediate release. The sergeant refused and the lawyer grabbed the phone and called the city attorney. He introduced himself and said: "A salesman for a client of mine back east is in jail here for refusing to

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"We'll have to eliminate 'Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party' as a typing exercise... Congress is becoming suspicious..."

Oldest Scouter Named Pack Committeeman

The oldest registered scout in the United States recently was appointed to committeeman duty with a Boy Scout pack at Waterloo in Linn county, the Salem scout office reported Tuesday.

James W. Smith, 105 years old, of Waterloo took his place on the committee of pack 79. The pack, recently organized with scout troop 79 at Waterloo by Harry Michelson, assistant scout executive, is in Calapooia district of the Cascade area council.

Smith, vigorous despite his years, plans to participate actively in the cub pack's program, Michelson said.

The new troop, with 16 scouts, and the pack, with 12 cubs, are sponsored by the Waterloo Parent-Teachers association. The troop will conduct weekly meetings each Thursday night at Waterloo schoolhouse and the pack will meet there each Friday night.

Everett Jacobs is scoutmaster and his assistants are James Whitmore and Ivan Argetsinger. Cubmaster is Wayne Jacobs. The joint troop - pack committee includes Floyd Thomas, William Thomas, Dan Ulin and F. H. Argetsinger, all of Waterloo. Smith is a member of the pack committee only.

Special School Course to End

A four-weeks special summer course for about 110 Salem grade school students will be completed Friday, it was announced Tuesday.

The course is conducted at Washington grade school. It is for students (from first to sixth grades) who had fallen behind in school work because of illness or absence and those pupils who have recently moved to this area and need extra work, according to Harry B. Johnson, Salem public schools curriculum director.

A staff of eight teachers, directed by Mrs. Beryl Holt, Salem high school teacher, conducted the studies each morning from 8:30 to 11:30 a. m. Mondays through Fridays.

Johnson reported "a very successful summer course with parents showing a great amount of interest in the classes." The students included all subjects but mostly arithmetic and reading. The special summer course is an annual program, Johnson said.

Jaycees Told of 'Boys Farm'

Eleven youths are spending their summer at "Boys Farm" near Jefferson learning farm and business techniques, earning money by working in the fields and enjoying the recreational facilities, David E. Turnidge, owner of the farm, told the Junior Chamber of Commerce at a luncheon Tuesday.

Turnidge and his two sons offer assistance to youths turned over to them by the county juvenile authorities.

His "sideline" has created many new problems but is an investment in humanity, the farmer told the Jaycees at their Marion hotel meeting.

High Court to Take Vacation

The state supreme court probably will recess for its annual summer vacation about July 10.

Most important case now pending before the court, in which a decision is expected within a few days, is that of ex-Governor Charles A. Sprague to restrain transfer of surplus state income tax revenues and corporate excise taxes to the state's general fund.

Arguments of attorneys were heard in the supreme court last week. The proceeding originated in Marion county where Circuit Judge George R. Duncan held the surplus funds were miscellaneous receipts and subject to transfer instead of being used solely for property tax offset.

Permit Given For 2 Houses

Mrs. Martha Thompson received a permit from the city engineer's office Tuesday to build two houses at 1741 and 1739 Market st., at a cost of \$6,300 each.

Authorizations for re-roofing went to Mrs. J. C. Yantis for a house at 2655 S. 21st st., \$200; W. W. Larson for a house at 3200 Bellvue st., \$200; and to Hugh Hull for a store at 2265 Mill st., \$200.

A permit to repair a house at 1630 S. Cottage st. was issued to Walter Turley, while the Unique Cleaners at 1554 Fairgrounds rd. received permission for a \$200 alteration job.

Chris Madsen received a permit to wreck a duplex apartment at 645 Chemeketa st. and George A. Hart to wreck a garage at 2490 Church st., \$50.

Forest Fire Posters Mailed

Recent hot weather sent Marion County Judge Grant Murphy around the county Tuesday in the interests of Keep Oregon Green association of which he is county chairman.

Posters and literature designed to warn against the dangers of forest fires are being sent out to all hotels, business houses, logging operations and summer youth camps.

Judge Murphy met with his committee members in 15 cities and communities in the county. A current warning against the fire - starting possibilities of fireworks in dry grass or brush also was issued Tuesday.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

one or two stories higher. The mass really calls for greater height, and the space certainly would be valuable for use. The only reason it wasn't so built was that the appropriation wasn't large enough. The parsimonious assembly at the special session of 1935 voted only \$2,500,000. A PWA grant of 45 per cent helped; but another million dollars, plus the proportionate grant would have given us a more imposing and more spacious building. You can't add a story now because of the central tower.

The board of control is wise in calling in Mr. Keally. He is a brilliant designer. He has taken great pride in the Oregon capitol which lately with other buildings of his designing won for him election as fellow of the American Institute of Architects. It may be that Mr. Keally will be able to develop a scheme for an addition to the capitol which would not look like a whitewashed woodshed or tent. If he can't without marring the beauty he will advise the board not to make the attempt.

Judge Sawyer to Join Advisers on Capitol Changes

Judge Robert W. Sawyer, member of the state commission which supervised construction of the present capitol building, arrived here Tuesday from Bend to join Francis Keally, New York architect, in inspecting the capitol with a view of advising the state board of control regarding proposed alterations.

Keally, who designed the capitol, arrived here last Sunday. Outstanding proposals, although only in discussion stage, involves a two-story addition to the capitol building. The addition would join the capitol on the south, and would contain a number of office rooms. Sawyer, after looking over the capitol, said it apparently was holding up well and only a few minor defects had been found.

Camp Pioneer Opens Sunday

Camp Pioneer, Boy Scout camp of the Cascade area council, will open its five-weeks summer camping season Sunday with campfire ceremonies at the camp on Pine lake at the foot of Mt. Jefferson. Approximately 32 troops representing well over 350 scouts have signed up for camp. The season is divided up into five sections of one week each.

Space at camp is still available for the first, fourth and fifth weeks, Gordon Gilmore, council scout executive, said Tuesday. Applications for camp are being accepted at the scout office.

Jerry Scott, assistant scout executive, is camp director while Harry Michelson, another assistant, is in charge of the camp commissary. Edward Fitzsimons of Salem is in charge of a staff directing water safety activities. The camp staff also includes two full-time scoutmasters, adult cooks, a registered nurse and a maintenance man.

Scouts may be reached by mail by addressing a letter to the individual scout at camp in care of the Idanha post office, Gilmore said. Religious services will be conducted each Sunday morning.

Stephen Benstein estate: Order sets time for hearing on final account at July 31.

Otto A. Klett estate: Order authorizes executor to execute a lease to James G. Ryan for the Hollywood Sports Bowl during the 1948 auto racing season.

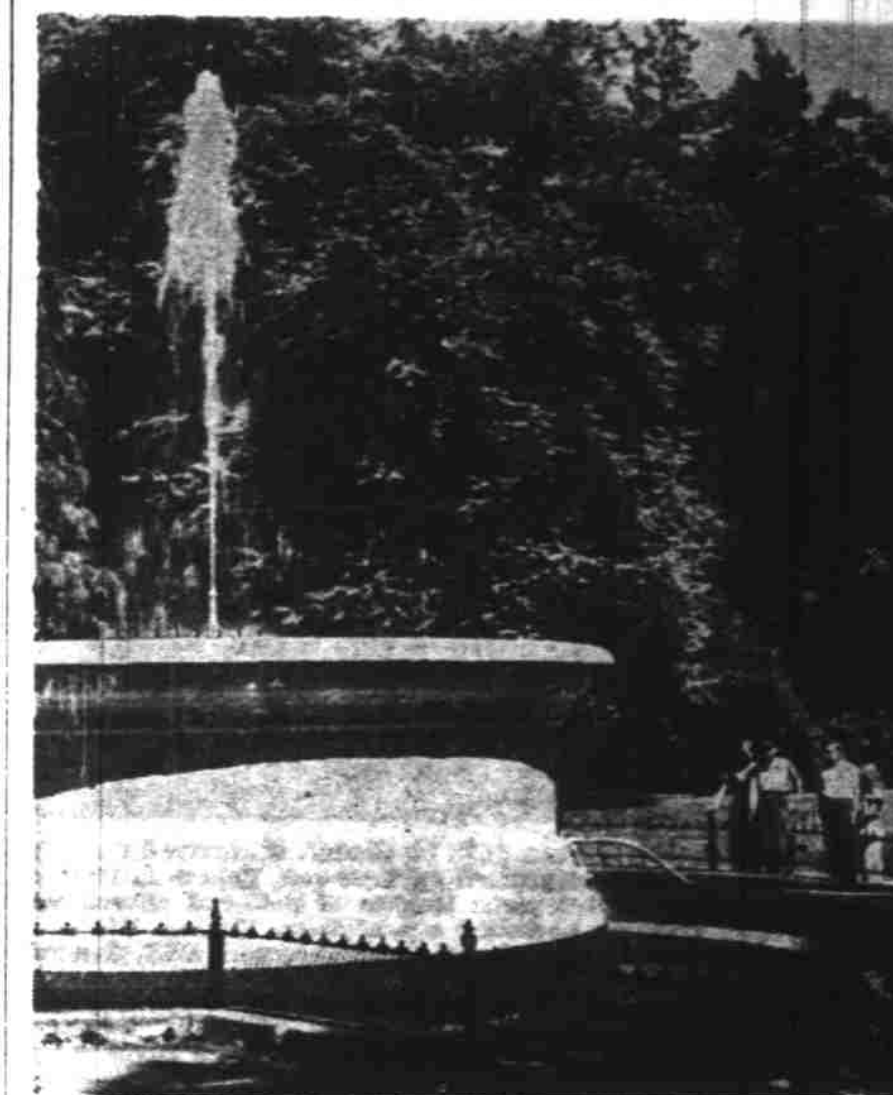
Emma Pearl Elliott estate: Final order closes estate.

Margaret Campbell guardianship estate: Return on sale of real property filed.

Cathy Ann Lais and Sally Jean Lais guardianship estate: Estate appraised at \$2,112.

Mario Jean Seville estate: Order authorizes sale of personal property valued at \$3,149 on July 13.

Attracted to Park Fountain



Salem can regard summer as being officially here with the fountain in Willson park merrily splashing its waters into the pool. Shown watching the fountain are, left to right, Dean Wayne McCormick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dick McCormick, route 9, box 95; Bob Tharsh, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Tharsh, route 2, box 97; and Ronal, and Jean Hamilton, son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hamilton of Seattle, Wash., the latter pausing during a vacation trip. (Photo by Don Dill, Statesman staff photographer.)

Four Enlist In Air Corps

Enlistment of four Salem men into the U. S. air force and army was reported by the Salem army recruiting station Tuesday.

Three of the men, all signing into the air force, are 1947 graduates of Sacred Heart academy. They are Charles T. Coffey, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Coffey, 1450 Fir st.; Melvin J. Staudinger, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Staudinger, 1132 Center st.; and Paul E. Muller, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Muller, 666 S. Summer st.

All three enlisted for three years. They were members of the academy basketball and football teams.

Enlisting for three years in the army infantry is Jack W. Smith, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Smith, 148 S. 17th st. Smith was graduated from Salem senior high school in 1947 and attended Oregon State college last year.

Scott Governor As Newbury Leaves

State Treasurer Leslie M. Scott Tuesday was acting governor of Oregon for the second time within three weeks.

Secretary of State Earl T. Newbury, acting governor during the recent absence of Governor Hall, left here Monday for Reno, Nev., to attend a conference of the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators. Hall is en route home from the east and was expected to arrive in Portland Wednesday.

Scott previously was acting governor for a brief period beginning June 8 when Hall left for the east. At that time Newbury was in Atlantic City, N. J.

Kiwanians Eat At Silver Creek

Salem Kiwanis club members and their families went to Camp Silver Creek Tuesday night for camp dinner with boys attending the Y camp this week.

This took the place of the noon meeting of the club but for those who were unable to attend the camp dinner a round table meeting was held Tuesday noon in the Mirror room at the Marion hotel.

The camp is located 28 miles from Salem and the 20 boys at the camp this week represent a special project of the Salem Kiwanis club youth committee.

Public Records

CIRCUIT COURT: Jens Lerback and Mary Lerback vs. W. Shields. Plaintiff's file reply admitting and denying.

Helen Zelma Wood vs. James Harlan Wood: Suit for divorce charging cruel and inhuman treatment asks for \$1,250 lump sum alimony, possession of one-half joint bank account and possession of household furniture. Married Dec. 23, 1945, at La Grande.

John Frank and Francis Frank vs. Edward Bern: Suit seeks to collect \$3,178 for damages allegedly received when defendant falsely represented real property description in land sale.

Albert R. Thomas vs. Bessie L. Thomas: Suit for divorce charging cruel and inhuman treatment. Married March 27, 1948, at Vancouver, Wash.

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS: Lee Horner, 49, tavern operator, and Esther Couch, 43, tavern operator, both of Stayton.

Edward James Klukis, 21, carpenter, 969 S. 13th st., Salem, and Goldie Hagel, 19, machine operator, Stayton route 1, box 28.

MUNICIPAL COURT: Harold R. Tipton, 1630 Yew st., charged with reckless driving with liquor involved, posted \$200 bail.

Thomas R. Waddell, 701 N. High st., driving with defective headlights, posted \$2.50 bail. Bennett N. Eyerly, 2741 N. River rd., violation of basic rule, posted \$7.50 bail.

Arcellas Byrd, Los Angeles, violation of basic rule, posted \$7.50 bail.

Wilbur Holmes, 1070 N. 19th st., violation of fireworks ordinance, posted \$15 bail.

PROBATE COURT: Thomas Henry Newton estate: Order approves final account and settles estate.

Nell M. Staley estate: Order approves final account and settles estate.

Alonzo Shuttlesworth estate: Report of sale on real and personal property filed.

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