

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Campaign to Be Bitter

President Truman accepted the democratic nomination in a speech whose asperity probably sets the pattern for his campaign. Ignoring Governor Dewey, his opponent, he appeared to be running against Herbert Hoover and the 80th congress. He announced also a call for a special session of the congress and that invites rejoinder in kind when congress meets, or before. Harry Truman proposes at least to go down fighting.

The Truman acceptance speech followed the style of his speeches in his late tour across the country—spraying acid on the 80th congress and the republican party. Its tone was bitterly partisan and full of his personal bias, reminding one of the FDR speech at the teamsters' banquet in Washington in 1944.

There is rebuttal for the points he made. He blamed republicans for the spurt in prices since 1946, because they failed to extend OPA as he requested. He ignored the fact that he lifted wage controls in late 1945 and released controls on building materials. Also he failed to note that OPA enforcement was breaking down the same as it did for national prohibition and for NRA. If he had got extension of full price-fixing powers for a year OPA would have been a sorry mess before the year was out.

As far as inflation goes the government must assume a large share of the blame. Its continued heavy spending, its very easy credit for home construction, its bonus grants, its farm price supports all fed the fires of inflation, and helped prices to spiral.

The recall of congress has its political overtones. Shortly after adjournment the president indicated he had no intention of calling congress into special session, but as he often does he reversed himself. He invites a lot of political feuding in the late summer because all eyes are fixed on November. Whether the republican congress will push through major items which were left pending at its June adjournment is quite doubtful.

The south showed a solidarity in its opposition to Truman, broken only by a minority of the North Carolina delegation. Its rebellion will get nowhere, though on top of the Wallace defection the desertion will be damaging to Truman. It was most unfortunate that sectionalism again showed its head, bad for the south, bad for the country.

"Simple" Atomics

There's hardly anything to it; atomic science is simple, Morris Markey says in an article in the July McCall's magazine. In an attempt to tear away the "mystifying and terrifying" aura with which facts about atomic fission are sometimes obscured, he explains that atomic energy is electricity, nothing more—so why be scared?

Some electricity is produced by fuels like coal which burn to create heat. Atomic power is produced from the heat released when uranium (the fuel) atoms split. It's not magic. It works according to established scientific principles.

He goes on to give more facts about the atomic energy situation. The government, through the atomic energy commission and the office of naval research, monopolizes all research leading toward ultimate production of atomic power. Right now the United States is not producing atomic energy for power because the army and other groups are more interested in building atomic bombs.

But a lot of research in various fields is going on simultaneously. There are about 20,000 American scientists working with radioactive (atomic) isotopes and some of their practical successes in medicine, agriculture and industry have already been made public. The naval research office distributes about \$250,000 of government funds per day to universities and hospitals engaged in atomic research. The Lillenthal commission spends almost \$2,000,000 a day, most of which goes into research and production of bombs. The ten U. S. atomic "piles"—the essential plants for all atomic experiment—are producing plutonium, bomb warhead, and isotopes for further study. None are power piles.

It may be ten years before large-scale production of atomic energy gets under way because of current emphasis on weapons and because expert manpower is as scarce as uranium. Besides, the electric energy now available is so inexpensive as to make atomic development uneconomical.

Markey points out there is nothing particularly frightening about all this and urges the public to turn deaf ears to demagogues who harangue about the fearful aspects of atomics for their own sinister purposes. What Markey seems to fear more than atomic power is the government monopoly of research which private industry would like to get its hands on.

Unconsciously then, Markey brings out the same old story. The basic scientific facts about a problem like atomic energy are really relatively simple compared to the complex socio-political-economic issues related to the original problem.

Our Own Majesty

The peerage, Oscar Wilde (recalling that James I sold titles at a fixed price to minor gentry) once said, is the best thing in fiction the English have ever done. But now the Americans have outdone the British and the satirical realm of titled aristocracy finds more Yankee members with each festival season.

Constitutionally, no one has the right to grant noble titles to any of us because we are, so the forefathers decreed, all created equally common. There is no Duke of Oregon, Earl of Marionshire or Viscount of Salem. Nevertheless, we have hundreds of queens; apple queens, cotton queens, potato queens; queens of oyster beds, of Rosaria, of Cherryland. And for each queen there are numerous lesser lights, princesses and royal consorts and liegemen of every description. These comprise the American peerage, that startling and dynamic roll call of aspiring bourgeois whose blood suddenly turned blue. And how we love them all.

Perhaps Americans are so partial to queens because the Cinderella legend has become an almost plausible part of our culture. Denied the pomp and circumstance that go with royal weddings, coronations and funerals when the nobility is the McCoy, Americans compensate with an elaborate and facile system of make-believe.

While our provincial pageantry and play-acting is all in fun, its unique feature is its essential democracy. In Europe, the citizen takes what royalty he gets, and likes it. No one could withhold the crown from Princess Elizabeth because she doesn't have a 20-inch waist and isn't sweet to everyone. Here the queen is picked from the ranks of the man in the street; she's the little girl next door, pretty enough to please her loyal vassals and to direct attention to other local beauties. There are, always many more at home like her.

It's a harmless game, this custom of choosing ourselves a fairytale ruler. The only sad part is that, for the queens and the princesses, the glass slippers never turn up in the hands of Prince Charming and the golden convertibles might as well turn into pumpkins. All the ladies that would be queen have to go back to school or their jobs or their housework and husbands.

Brief as it is, may the reign of Queen Lois be happy. Salem is proud to enter her court into the mythical pages of the American peerage.



First Battles Lost, But Not the War!

Unemployment In State Drops To Record Low

Mid-year unemployment in Oregon dropped to 30,500, lowest peacetime July 1 figure since records became available, according to reports received from 28 local employment service offices and tabulated by the state unemployment compensation commission.

Despite widespread displacements as the result of June floods, the number of persons looking for work declined 700 in the metropolitan area during the month and 3600 statewide. With employment reports indicating a steadily expanding labor force that is expected to exceed 10,000 to 15,000 last year's late summer peak of 647,700, the number of those working in trade, industries and farms probably will establish a new state record, officials said.

It was estimated that \$625,000 may be employed in Oregon this fall, far more than in wartime when 97,000 were in the shipyard and aircraft plants.

Heavy Selling Sends Stock Prices Down

NEW YORK, July 15 (AP)—Stock prices went spinning downward today in one of the year's steepest declines when heavy last-minute selling lashed the market.

The market had dozed along at slightly lower levels most of the day and the sudden rush to unload caught the financial district by surprise.

Not since Feb. 10, when commodity prices were tumbling, has it taken such a wallowing.

Wall Street quarters attributed the decline to two factors:

First, the Russian reply to the three-power note on the blockade of Berlin; and second, the president's call for a special session of the congress.

In the last hour alone 690,000 shares of stock changed hands, compared with the day's total of 1,620,000. The day's total was the largest in about three weeks.

Turnover yesterday amounted to 1,340,000 shares. The Associated Press average of 60 stocks dropped 1.2 points to 91. This carried the general level of the market back to where it was at the end of June.

Corn Futures Climb Again

CHICAGO, July 15 (AP)—The scramble for July corn by shorts in that contract grew a little more feverish today. At one time July was up 4 cents on the board of trade. The closing price showed a gain of more than 3 cents. Export demand for July corn, the market was quiet. Northwestern mills supported deferred wheat deliveries. Oats held steady on prospect of rains in the midwest, which would delay harvesting. Rye staged a technical comeback and soybeans tumbled once again. Wheat closed 1/4 lower to 1/2 higher, July \$2.27 1/2; corn was 1/2 lower to 3/4 higher, July \$2.12-2.11 1/2; oats were 1/4-1/2 higher, July 90-90 1/2; rye was 1 cent higher, December \$1.88 3/4; and soybeans were 5/8-7/8 lower, July \$3.80.

Dies Suddenly Of Heart Attack

Franz Lundberg, 63, resident of 555 Center st. and employee of the Miller Mercantile company's shoe department, died suddenly of a heart attack Tuesday while vacationing at Taft, Ore.

Lundberg was born in Sweden and came to America as a youth. He had resided in Salem for the past 10 years and had been employed at Miller's for five years. He formerly lived in Des Moines, Iowa.

Surviving are a brother, Robert Lundberg of Des Moines and an aunt in Minneapolis. Howell-Edwards company is in charge of funeral arrangements.

The Safety Valve

Criticizes MBS Convention Reporting

To the Editor:

Using this letter as a medium of expression to the ordinary citizen, publication of same privileged, thankful for such a great privilege; this short statement should be made at this time.

The presentation of the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia by the Mutual Broadcasting Company has been a typical example of non-representative American citizenship. The conduct of this broadcasting system shows in the raw the fierce desire that truth be silenced in order that it not present itself to the attention of the people—the only true jury.

Is there no meaning to the saying: "Know the truth and it shall make you free?" Cutting off principal spokesmen while speaking is not the American way.

Again the Oregon Statesman should be respected for opening its pages to all arguments of our great political scene.

Arthur L. Davis
1535 Trade St.
Salem, Oregon

Silverton Area Hop Growers Form Sale Pool

SILVERTON, July 15—A hop pool, representing approximately 400 acres and 2,000 bales, was formed today when a group of hopmen met at the Harvey Gehring hop ranch in the Evergreen district. About one-third of the acreage is early fuggles and the remaining in late and early clusters.

Walter VonFlue was elected manager with Gehring, secretary. The group agreed not to sell out of the pool without calling a special meeting of the membership and discussing the situation.

The hop crop represented in this pool is of good quality. While the Evergreen and Brush Creek areas, where the majority of the hops in the pool are grown, escaped from serious mildew, the crop is comparatively light, the growers stated.

Buyers have been in the field in recent days, not only in this area but also in others and are offering 67 cents, approximately five cents more than was offered 10 days ago.

Hill to Speak at Engineer Meet

William C. Hill, engineer of the Oregon state board of aeronautics, will be on the program of a convention of the American Society of Civil Engineers next week in Seattle.

He is to read a paper Wednesday on airport paving work which has been prepared by Henry Aaron of the civil aeronautics administration. Director W. M. (Jack) Bartlett of the state aeronautics department will confer on state regulatory problems Wednesday with other state aviation officials.

Production of steel ingots in the United States in 1947 totalled 84.7 million tons, about five million under the wartime peak.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"It's true this party's dead, Senator . . . It's only between conventions, . . ."

Flow of Funds Into Democrat Coffers Slows

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop
PHILADELPHIA, July 15—President Truman has accepted the nomination of a party which is bankrupt, not only politically, but also in the simple financial sense of the word. The best test of the dreadful state of the democratic party is the dreadful state of its treasury. This is a perhaps squalid practical fact, which will never the less intimately affect the course of the coming campaign.

Officials of the democratic national committee talk airily about "several hundred thousand dollars" being in the till. But if this money is there at all, most of it is obligated. Insiders who know their business say that the national committee has about \$80,000 in hand, which is peanuts measured against the huge bill of the future.

Partly, this is the result of sheer folly. Over \$20,000 was wasted, for example, on the silly little "Truman victory kits" containing thimbles, whistles and the like, which were distributed with the apparent intention of mollifying peevish female delegates. Mainly, however, the trouble is that the fat cats have either been alienated or have ceased to regard the democratic party as a good speculative investment. The contrast with the past is sad indeed.

Groups Lost to Cause
In 1944, the big money was raised at a sort of marathon cocktail party in the New York hotel suite of chairman of the national committee Robert E. Hannegan. Every afternoon for 60 days suitable prospects were suitably entertained, and the psychological moment retired with chairman Hannegan to the rare privacy of the bathroom. There, among the plumbing fixtures, the checks were signed, for \$1,000, \$2,000 or \$5,000, as the case might be. Among the contributors of those days, one very large group has become unapproachable now because of the Zionist issue, and other groups have been lost to the cause in other ways.

Worse still, the professional touch of chairman Hannegan who is an extremely able practical politician, is now unhappily lacking. He and his cohorts kept the very fattest of the fat cats in reserve until the difficult days at the close of the campaign, when they were individually touched for really big contributions. The present national committee, in an evident moment of despair, has already done the opposite. Registered letters were recently sent by the current national chairman, Senator J. Howard McGrath, to all the largest contributors of record, asking them to mail their checks at once.

Contributors Content
The result has been that men who used to give \$1,000 have hastily forwarded \$500, while former contributors of \$5,000 have sent checks for \$1,000. The rather peremptory voice of registered letters caused some resentment. But on the balance, the large contributors were delighted to be given this chance of getting off cheaply. When they are solicited later, they can say they have already laid their contributions on the line and send the solicitor away with a flea in his ear.

This is the situation in which, according to reports, the assistant secretary of air, Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney, has had the arm put on him to handle the democratic party's finances during the campaign. Whitney is an amiable and public-spirited man but he has no previous experience in the extremely specialized task he is about to undertake. Obviously, what recommended him for the job is that he possesses a very large private fortune. The democratic strategists quite clearly expect to run up a big tab, and then leave Whitney to pick the tab up. On the whole, this seems a trifle hard on Whitney.

Expensive Campaign
Nor is this matter of campaign finances likely to remain a mere headache for Whitney. President Truman and his entourage plan an extremely expensive campaign. A single one of the long barnstorming tours now projected is estimated by experts to cost over \$1,000,000. There will also be all the infinite varieties of other bills, for everything from radio time to paying off phony leaders of phony groups of Albanians-for-Truman, Bulgarians-for-Truman, Afghans-for-Truman and the like. Even if Whitney is more than generous, there will always be desperate money pressure.

Getting up the cash in politics is never difficult if you are willing to make the right concessions. For instance, "The Atlanta Constitution" has reported, without corroboration, that the big sum needed to finance the forthcoming rump convention of southern rebels at Birmingham has been supplied by the oil companies. The sordid connection between this fact and the southern delegation's feverish hope of a platform plank endorsing the



TOWN HONORS HERO—Statue of Marine Gunner Sgt. John Basile, Congressional Medal of Honor winner, who was killed on Iwo Jima, is unveiled at Raritan, N. J.



SMUTS INSTALLED—Field Marshal Jan Christian Smuts installed as Cambridge University chancellor—an honorary post—has robe of office carried in train behind him. He recently was defeated as South African prime minister.

Youth Hostellers Plan Moonlight Climb of Mt. Hood

Salem chapter of the American Youth Hostel association will sponsor a moonlight climb of Mt. Hood July 23 and 24. The climb, the second to be made by the group, will be open to anyone who wishes to participate. Interested persons are asked to contact leader Don Douris at First Presbyterian church.

The Youth Hostel group made two trips last week, one on bicycles to Dallas park Sunday, and the other Wednesday night to the Mission park at Mission Bottom. Participating in the latter were Don Douris, leader, and his Campbell, Walter Jones, Richard Scott, Hazel Eyer, Wayne Rogers, Lee Davis and Wayne Gibbons.

An overnight work trip to Crestwood Acres is also scheduled for July 30-31.

tidelands oil grab is too obvious to need further discussion.

Oil Firms Seek Benefits

There are all kinds of groups, besides the tidelands oil grabbers, to which the stuper democrats may be tempted to promise concessions if they will only get up a little folding money. It can naturally be assumed without question that neither Whitney nor of course President Truman will become involved in anything of this sort. Yet it is also true that both as a result of this money problem and in other ways, one of the really grave dangers of the next four months is that the democrats may be driven by despair to do idiotic, or dangerous or downright improper things. (Copyright, 1948, New York Herald Tribune Inc.)

Births

ROME—To Mr. and Mrs. George E. Rohe, 1040 Terrace dr., a son, Thursday, July 15, at Salem General hospital.

SCHOENAUER — To Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Schoenauer, Stayton, a son, Thursday, July 15, at Salem Memorial hospital.

SOCIALISTS TO MEET

A public meeting which is expected to set up a socialist party ticket for the November general election has been scheduled for tonight in one of the circuit court rooms in Marion county courthouse. Arrangements with the county court were made by Wendell Barnett, rancher in the Pioneer community.

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AT

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490 N. 19th St., between Center and Chemeketa
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