

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Foreign Policy Planning Board Shows Promise

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop
WASHINGTON, Sept. 21—It is time for a report on what the National Security Council is, and what it does. For it is now clear that, almost unnoticed, the National Security Council has effected a radical and deeply significant change in the whole technique of making American national policy. As it has developed over the last year, the council has assumed three main functions. The first is to make those decisions so critical and so urgent that they cannot be made on a day-to-day basis by individual policy makers. The second is to attempt to anticipate specific decisions which must be made in the future. The third, and most difficult, is to prepare a coherent definition of American political objectives for the world as a whole and for specific areas of the world.

When an immediate, crucial decision must be made, the president calls the council into session and with the president participating, the decision is made on the spot. This was what happened, for example, when information became available that the Soviet Union intended to propose the return of Trieste to Italy before the Italian elections. Acting with a speed which has not been characteristic of the American government, the council decided to forestall the Russians. Similarly, an emergency meeting of the council was called some days ago on two hours' notice when it became clear that the negotiations between the four military commanders in Berlin were being rendered futile by the Soviet attitude. It was decided to recommend to Britain and France that the Berlin negotiations be suspended, and that one last attempt at negotiation be tried in Moscow.

Council Meets Regularly

The council also meets regularly on the first and third Thursdays of each month in the cabinet room of the White House. At these meetings one or more decisions which must be anticipated for the future are canvassed. Papers outlining these policy decisions are prepared by the staff of the council in consultation with the designated planning officers. These are Gen. Kennan of the state department, Gen. Gilbert Wedemeyer for war, Gen. Lauris Norstad for the air force, and Adm. Arthur Struble for the navy.

President Kept Informed

Before these meetings, Souers takes the policy paper which is to be discussed to the president. The papers are usually confined to five succinct, double-spaced pages, and Souers fills in the details for the president and suggests some of the implications of each paper. The president does not ordinarily attend the routine Thursday meetings, but if a flat agreement develops, the final decision is referred to him. Otherwise, differences of view are ironed out, the paper is revised and the president initials the resulting policy paper. The council is now, for example, "seized" with the problem of what to do if a settlement of the Berlin crisis results either from direct negotiations or from the United Nations meeting. No final decision has yet been taken.

Finally, there is the task of defining a coherent basic national policy for the United States. A short paper, between 15 and 20 pages, is now being hammered out, defining American world political objectives. Subsidiary papers on specific areas—the Far East, the Mediterranean area, western and central Europe—are also being prepared. In every case, the state department's primary responsibility for policy is recognized. Almost all policy papers are initiated by state, but the representation of the defense departments on the council insures that the military and strategic implications of a given policy are acknowledged and taken into account.

Coherent System
This coherent system of making American national policy is a sharp contrast to the system of decision by squabble which prevailed under Roosevelt and other presidents. Under the squabble system, a violent row would break out between two or more departments on a given issue of policy. The deadlock would finally be broken, after much waste motion, by the president himself.

The astute editors of "The London Economist" have written that the creation of the council "may mark a milestone in America's development as outstanding as, say, Washington's farewell address." The question remains whether Dewey, who will certainly be a strong executive, will give the council as much author-

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"But I had to cloud the issue... I'm in the dark about it myself..."

Wife Sought in East Oregon Murder Trial

VALE, Ore., Sept. 21—(AP)—The "case of the missing woman" neared its end in a Malheur county circuit courtroom today as cross-examination of William George Walker, 38, closed. Walker, accused of slaying J. C. Pirkle last July 26, again insisted Pirkle died in a struggle over a rifle with which Pirkle was attempting to shoot him and the missing woman—Pirkle's wife.

Denial Shooting

In a cross-examination, Walker denied flatly that he shot Pirkle or that he helped dump Pirkle's body into an irrigation canal siphon. He repeated an assertion that Mrs. Pirkle alone dragged the body to the siphon. The body was recovered from an irrigation canal last month.

Fair Argued

Earlier Walker testified the Pirkles were arguing and he went for a ride with them in hopes of bringing them together. At a lonely spot they stopped, got out of the car and Pirkle grabbed the rifle, Walker said.

Lived in Same House

Walker, married and the father of four children, testified previously that his family and the Pirkles were living in the same house here previous to the slaying.

Emigh Talks To 20-30 Club

George Emigh, business manager of the Salem Senator baseball club, was guest speaker in a meeting of the Salem 20-30 club Tuesday night. Emigh said the peace-time draft will seriously affect both minor and major league baseball. Emigh also said it is becoming increasingly difficult for minor league clubs to sign rookie prospects because of large contract bonuses being offered by major league farm systems.

Aussies Lift Price Ceilings

SYDNEY, Sept. 21—(AP)—The Australian government lifted price ceilings yesterday on about 30,000 items. These are some of today's reactions in Sydney: Use dears sold at 20 per cent over the pegged prices, but at less than black market prices. Land prices went up to twice the former fixed prices and even higher than black market prices. Shrimps rose from a fixed price of 10 pence (16 cents) a pound to three shillings 10 pence (76 cents).

As Truman, who has never failed to approve a council decision. Yet Dewey is nothing if not a friend of efficiency. The council has already proved itself an extraordinarily effective instrument of government and there can be little doubt that Dewey will make maximum use of it. (Copyright, 1948, New York Herald Tribune Inc.)

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

that time trouble has been chronic, with quickie strikes, slowdowns, contention. Now that the strike has come employers may go through to make it a showdown. They assert they will not negotiate until officials of the union sign non-communist affidavits.

Besides the parties who are principals the ones who will suffer are the shippers. Salem in the past has furnished heavy tonnage of paper, canned goods, dried fruit, and must all depend principally on shipping for movement of lumber. The present paralysis will seriously damage the west's economy if it is long continued.

Debate Follows Jaycee Talk On Commission

Eimer Amundson, local attorney and proponent of the city commission government proposal, inspired spirited debate Tuesday as he explained provisions of the city charter amendment at the Junior Chamber of Commerce luncheon at the Golden Pheasant.

Crying Baby Saves Family from Fire

SEASIDE, Sept. 21—(AP)—A crying baby awakened Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Butts today in time to allow them to escape from flames that destroyed their home. Mrs. Butts grabbed the seven-month-old son and ran outside. Butts went upstairs to locate the fire. He had to jump from a window to escape.

Gold Star Stamp Out Waterloo, Ia.

WATERLOO, Ia., Sept. 21—(AP)—Mrs. Thomas Sullivan, mother of the five Sullivan brothers who went with the Japs, sunk the cruiser Juneau in the South Pacific, was presented the first sheet of the three-cent Gold Star Mothers commemorative stamp by Robert E. Fellers, superintendent of stamps, Washington, in a brief ceremony here today.

Gov. Hall Cites Reasons for Freck Ouster

(Story also page 1)
Gov. John Hall, in reviewing extensively the hearing accorded last week to Joseph O. Freck, sr., deposed state liquor commissioner, declared Tuesday he had found Freck "has legally disqualified himself."
The governor reviewed the testimony of A. N. Wyson, assistant state purchasing agent, who said certain supplies could have been purchased cheaper from sources other than Freck stores; John K. Crowe, assistant attorney general, who told of informing Hall of such purchases in August, and an assistant purchasing agent of the liquor commission who testified as to methods of bidding.

Major parts of the governor's findings follow:
"I removed him (Freck) as a member of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission on the grounds of inefficiency, neglect of duty, and misconduct of office. Pursuant to the above finding, sections of the Oregon law I preferred written charges which were served on Mr. Freck personally and in person by the sheriff of Multnomah county on the 4th day of September, 1948.

"Said charges were to the effect that Mr. Freck violated the constitution and the laws of Oregon in selling certain merchandise from his stationery store to the Oregon Liquor Control Commission and in that he collected in the period between Jan. 1, 1948, and up to the date of his removal the sum of \$12,240 at the rate of \$10 per day for each day in attendance at the offices of the Liquor Control Commission which, in my opinion, was exorbitant, extravagant and to a large degree a waste of public funds.

"The net earnings of the Liquor Commission can be likened to a trust fund, set aside and earmarked by law for a specific purpose. The sole beneficiaries of this fund are those citizens of Oregon who are entitled to old age pensions. The members of the Liquor Commission who are charged with the earnings of this fund are likened to trustees. It is a well-known principle of law that a trustee will not be permitted to profit personally from a trust fund, and must exercise the greatest caution and the highest degree of care to see that these trust funds are preserved for the beneficiaries.

"No Justification
"The fact that the Liquor Control Commission has not used the office of the state purchasing department is no justification for not doing so. Mr. Wyson testified that his office was available for that purpose and indeed section 89-301 O. C. L. A., gives the state purchasing agent the right to purchase supplies for the Liquor Commission and every other state department, board and commission. The Oregon State Board of Control, consisting of the governor, secretary of state and state treasurer, hereby is given full power to purchase on behalf of and for the State of Oregon and each and every department, institution, board, commission, office, officer, bureau or agency of any and every kind, all equipment, supplies and materials of every kind and nature, and all public utility service of every kind and nature required or deemed advisable for such offices, departments, etc., provided, however, that this act shall not include or apply to ports or port districts."

"Testimony Not Disputed
"Testimony was introduced at the hearing and it was not disputed that between the first day of January, 1948, and the thirtieth day of June, 1948, the office of the commission was open for business a total of 125 days. It was also not disputed that Mr. Freck charged the State of Oregon a total of \$12,240 during said period representing 124 days attendance at the statutory per diem office of \$100 a day. Perhaps the only question of law but, in my opinion, it certainly was a violation of the spirit of the law.

"However, it is my opinion that the statute never contemplated that any commissioner would charge the state almost the full amount permitted by law. . . .
"I find that from the records of the public welfare commission the average payment to old age beneficiaries in Oregon between January 1 and June 30, 1948, was \$43.49 a month, while Mr. Freck on the other hand received \$12,240 or an average of \$206.66 a month that came from these same funds. Found to be State Officer
"Mr. Freck through his attorney at the hearing presented a unique proposal that was not a state officer. I find from my examination of the Oregon law on the subject that he was a state officer or state official and as such clearly came with the purchase of Article IX, Section 8, of the constitution of the State of Oregon which reads as follows:
"All stationery required for the use of the state shall be furnished by the lowest responsible bidder, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law. But no state officer, or members of the legislature, shall be interested in any bid or contract for furnishing such stationery. . . .
"I find that he violated his oath

of office, by purchasing supplies from his own firm in contravention of the above quoted provision of the constitution.
"I further find that even in the absence of constitutional or statutory provision it certainly is against sound public policy for any public officer or official to use his office in such a way as to gain a personal profit at the expense of the State of Oregon.

"In view of the foregoing, I find that Mr. Freck has legally disqualified himself from holding the office of liquor commissioner and that his removal therefrom was justified. . . .
The governor reviewed the testimony of A. N. Wyson, assistant state purchasing agent, who said certain supplies could have been purchased cheaper from sources other than Freck stores; John K. Crowe, assistant attorney general, who told of informing Hall of such purchases in August, and an assistant purchasing agent of the liquor commission who testified as to methods of bidding.

Walnut Crop Ratios Set by U.S. Bureau

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 21—(AP)—The U. S. department of agriculture proposes to fix salable percentage for merchantable walnuts at 75 per cent, and the surplus percentage at 25 per cent for the marketing year which began August 1.
The department said today this

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"The net earnings of the Liquor Commission can be likened to a trust fund, set aside and earmarked by law for a specific purpose. The sole beneficiaries of this fund are those citizens of Oregon who are entitled to old age pensions. The members of the Liquor Commission who are charged with the earnings of this fund are likened to trustees. It is a well-known principle of law that a trustee will not be permitted to profit personally from a trust fund, and must exercise the greatest caution and the highest degree of care to see that these trust funds are preserved for the beneficiaries.

followed provisions of marketing agreement number 105 and order number 84 regulating handling of walnuts grown in California, Oregon and Washington.
The withholding percentage based on the ratio between the surplus and salable percentages will be a flat 33 per cent following the formula in the agreement and order.
The withholding percentage governs the quantity of merchantable walnuts to be withheld by handlers for shipping or export in relation to the quantity sold in shell on domestic markets.
Interested persons may submit written data concerning the proposed percentages to the hearing clerk, USDA, Washington 25, D. C., not later than October 5.

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Kansas City, Mo.—The Easyhold, inconspicuous to wear, without leg straps, elastic belts or body-encircling springs, is now enabling thousands of ruptured men and women to forget rupture worries and lead more normal healthy lives. It is sent on 30 days trial.
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Coos Bay Business Slump Blamed on Waterfront Strike

COOS BAY, Sept. 21—(AP)—Merchants of the Coos Bay community today blamed the waterfront strike for a business decline of 10 to 50 per cent.
Nearly 1,500 longshoremen and lumber workers are out of work, since lumber shipments have ceased and three firms have laid off sawmill employees.
Banks reported a severe slump in loan requests, although many have asked extension of loans. Stores said many were requesting extensions on installment purchases.

U.S. SAYS NO TO ROMANIA

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21—(AP)—The United States has turned down a plea from Romania's communist government for American oil equipment, government officials disclosed today.

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