

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sweeps Us, No Fear Shall Ave"
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY
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Wallace Talks Nonsense

Either in a frantic effort to attract attention or else because he is a victim of his own delusions the speeches of Henry Wallace grow wilder and wilder. His accusations against the heads of the government responsible for foreign policy are so extreme as to merit the condemnation of every honest-thinking citizen. It simply isn't true that men like President Truman, Secretary Marshall, Senator Vandenberg are following purposely a war policy. They have labored industriously and patiently to preserve peace. What Wallace would do is to obtain immediate peace by appeasement of Russia's demands which would mean eventually the turning over of millions of people in western nations to the injustices of the totalitarian system.

Wallace has become a ranting, working over material as old as the Populist campaigns of the 1890's. He berates Wall Street, the power trust (the octopus), newspapers (squids). As a lavish spender of public funds he would put Harry Hopkins far in the shade. He proposed our putting up \$50 billion for world reconstruction, including Russia; \$4 billion for spending down south; \$100 a month pension for every one over 60 years of age and other \$20 billion. If he cut out every cent for national defense and for the Marshall plan he would have only around \$15 billions—the rest would come through heavy increases in taxes.

Wallace's performance simply doesn't make sense. FDR was a hidebound conservative compared with HAW. He is so close an associate of his communist buddies that he seems to absorb their ideas and words.

There is generally room for a vocal minority, but to be impressive its talk must be intelligible. Wallace's talk is so nonsensical that he is wasting what influence he had with the electorate.

By-pass for Trucks

People living on North Capitol and South Twelfth and Morningside heights are urging a by-pass route for trucks. They are fed up with the noise these traveling moguls make and with the fumes they emit.

But the prospect of immediate action seems dim. Lancaster road has only a light mat of surfacing which would crumble quickly under the constant load of these behemoths. To switch to another route now paved would invite protests from those living along it. To build another route to take care of the trucks will take time—and money.

Nevertheless the agitation is valid and brings condition to the attention of authorities. That is the preliminary to action. The state can not afford to build both a new highway for passenger vehicles and another one for motor trucks. One wide road will have to do for both. The highway commission should decide soon on its preferred location and then start construction work as soon as it can.

Small Gain in Registration

In 1940, the federal census showed the population of Salem at 30,908. For the general election that year there were 18,373 registered voters. This year, several methods of estimating population indicate the city probably has close to 50,000 population—an increase of 66 per cent. And yet registered voters total only 19,125—an increase approximating 4 per cent. Where is the discrepancy?

This question, posed to those handling registra-

tion at the courthouse, brought out divergent but related answers.

First, there is the possibility that present population has been over-estimated. Second, the birth rate since the war has been exceptionally high and a good percentage of our increased population won't be able to vote for 15 or 20 years.

Third, many new residents have taken neither the time nor trouble to register, for numerous reasons—they've been too busy getting started here; they come from states which levy a poll tax for registration and have not learned there is no such levy in Oregon; or, like many longer residents, they just haven't accepted the voting privileges and duties of a free democracy.

Whatever the reason, it is certain that the slight increase of registered voters since 1940 is not indicative of the population gains. It is too late to boost registrations now. But it is not too late to urge that everyone registered visit the polls between 8 a. m. and 8 p. m. Tuesday, November 2. Major and vital issues are at stake.

George T. Gerlinger

George T. Gerlinger chose a small town when he moved to Dallas in 1904 to enter the lumber manufacturing business. He made such success there that he became recognized as one of the great leaders in the lumber industry. To him came both honors and responsibilities in business and public affairs. He wore his honors with modesty and discharged his responsibilities with fidelity.

The lumber business has been one marked by wide swings of prosperity. It was a prince-or-pauper enterprise. Many concerns that were thriving in boom years languished and succumbed when lumber demand fell off and prices dropped. George Gerlinger was a man with unusual talent in this field. Conservative in his policies of management his company was able to weather the severe depression years successfully. He knew when to step out too, as he did in recent years to embark in logging operations on Snow Peak and to build a fine, modern mill at Foster. Another achievement for which he is known in the lumber trade was his successful milling and marketing of western hemlock which long was regarded as almost worthless.

His death removes one who was remarkably able in business and a constructive force in public affairs. We shall miss him too as a personal friend.

Punctuation Makes a Difference

The esteemed Eugene Register-Guard quotes from the 121st Psalm:

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills
Whence cometh my strength."

That accords with the King James translation. Modern translators who alter the punctuation get quite a different meaning in their version.

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills.
Whence cometh my help?

My help cometh from the Lord
Which made heaven and earth."

The latter is doubtless the correct translation, though like the Eugene editor we draw a lot of strength from the hills.

The army announces the invention of a bomb that directs itself to the target by heat radiation. The world hopes that the bomb and St. Nick aren't vying for the same chimneys come Christmas-time.

Your City Government

(Editor's note: Mayor Robert L. Eifstrom of Salem, in a move to stress to all residents that "the city is a municipal corporation, your corporation, and you are its stockholders," recently prepared a series of articles on its government. Excerpts from the articles will appear from time to time as a matter of public information.)

We probably don't need to tell you we have one of the finest water systems in the U. S., with 140 miles of water mains. It is so nearly ideal that most of us just don't think much about it.

However, there are a few things about it that I feel you may be interested in knowing. Once we took our water supply from the Willamette, when at times the filtering system in the world would not have given us pure water.

The source now is a small river island in the Santiam some 20 miles east of Salem. It provides whatever the city needs, from 5,000,000 to 21,000,000 gallons a day. Although it requires little treatment, it is constantly watched by the department's chemist, who makes tests every 24 hours. And it requires no softener.

The water department employs 36 persons, including the manager, whose work dates back to 1935. He reports directly to the city manager and they work cooperatively. The department serves between 9,000 and 10,000 metered accounts and the list is growing.

The rates are as low as in most other western Oregon cities and considerably lower than in most other states.

But Salem is growing and we have for some time foreseen need for a larger system. We asked the army engineers for an additional volume allocation for 100,000 persons. The allocation has been granted and provisions made to connect our new mains to the dam near Detroit.

It is the opinion of your city manager that, when this project is completed, no other city will have a better water system. It will also include two new reservoirs, one on the high elevation east of Salem and another above West Salem. These reservoirs are to hold a 5-day supply.

The city manager's problem has been the scarcity of pipe with which to complete extensions. Part of this problem was solved by the city manager and the water department manager when they bought ship steel and had it reprocessed into 30-inch mains. Incidentally, they saved the city about \$12,000.

We can't take credit for the creation and development of Salem's excellent water system, but we do enjoy telling you about it—and what we are doing to protect and expand it.

City Manager Plan Opposed

(Editor's note—A group known as the Citizens' Better Government committee has asked for space to tell why they favor a commission form of city government. The following was over the signature of E. L. Smith, secretary.)

There is nothing complicated or mysterious about a commission form of government. We vote to amend our charter providing for election of three commissioners who will be the governing body, instead of the seven councilmen, mayor and city manager as now.

The bill creates three departments, covering all the business of the city. Each department has at its head one commissioner who devotes all his time and energy to the efficient operation of that department. We have these departments set up now, with men in charge, but instead of being elected by the people and responsible to them for the administration of their departments, they are responsible to and take orders from a city manager who rules at the top and draws a salary of \$9000 per year and has additional expense of maintaining an office and personnel.

A number of competent men would undoubtedly seek these positions and the salaries now paid the heads of these departments would provide the money to pay the commissioners. The city manager's office would be eliminated with a saving to the city of \$15 to \$20,000.

Under the present arrangement the people have no voice whatsoever as to the salary the city manager receives or when it will be raised or from what source it will be obtained.

This is a serious situation and one that must be rectified whether we continue with the manager form or not. City officials have no right to be so generous with public funds without the consent of the people.

Under our proposed commission form this could not happen.

Cachets Ready For Collection

Portland—In recognition of National Letter-Writing week October 17 to 23, inclusive, the Portland postoffice in cooperation with the Portland Retail Trade bureau and the leading airlines serving this area will apply souvenir cachets to all envelopes sent in for dispatch.

Stamp and cover collectors, and others who may wish to obtain the souvenir cachet commemorating National Letter-Writing week, should send or mail in their covers at once to: Cachet Director, c/o Postmaster, Portland 8, Oregon. The covers should bear proper postage for regular or airmail dispatch and should be completely addressed.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"New baby, eh?... What will you and your wife try next to work a raise out of me, Frisbie?..."

Oregon Politics

Plane Crash Changes State's Capitol Scene

(Editor's note: Following is the text of a series of stories on the Oregon political picture in reference to the forthcoming election. It is written both for the general information of our thousands of new residents and as a refresher course for other. The stories will appear daily.)

By Wendell Webb
Managing Editor, The Statesman

Tragedy Alters the Picture

An airplane crash a year ago this month in the wild-country of Southern Oregon altered the texture, if not the tenor, of this state's politics for the next decade.

It killed a respected governor (Earl Snell) who might have become a U. S. senator; it killed an able secretary of state (Robert S. Farrell, jr.) whose political climb to even higher office was predicted; it killed a responsible president of the state senate (Marshall E. Corbett), who was just well started in carrying his business success into the realm of politics. That it killed an able pilot, Clifford Hogue, was an added misfortune.

That crash on a black night last October 28, also had repercussions far beyond its tragic touch in the homes of Earl, Bob and Marshall—Oregon has known nearly all its high officials by their first names.

It eliminated all possibility that U. S. Sen. Guy Corden might have yielded his seat in congress to Earl Snell.

It raised to the governorship Rep. John H. Hall of Portland, who by virtue of being speaker of the house was in line of succession behind Governor Snell and Senate President Corbett. It opened a suitable political niche for Salem's own Sen. Douglas McKay who subsequently defeated Hall for nomination as governor in the May primaries and whose election in November appears certain.

It left State Treasurer Leslie Scott as the only experienced member of the state's three-man (governor, secretary of state, state treasurer) board of control and he can't run again because he has served the maximum two terms.

And it gave Governor Hall virtually command of the board of control through his own membership and his authority to name the third member—a secretary of state to succeed Farrell. (He named State Sen. Earl T. Newberry of Ashland, who is candidate for an elected term.)

That it also gave Hall authority over state boards already has reacted to the detriment of the state's republican party through a recent clash with his own liquor commission appointee, Joseph Freck, sr.

Had the democrats a stronger gubernatorial candidate than Sen. Lew Wallace of Portland, it is conceivable the clash might even have left some doubt as to McKay's winning the governorship. But so far, the state's most politically-costly air crash in history does not appear to have brought the democratic party much to the fore on a statewide basis—as evinced by the fact that every man thus far mentioned herein is a republican except Wallace.

Republican candidate for the third major post, that of state treasurer (who also is a member of the board of control, is State Sen. Howard Belton of Canby, former president of the senate. And in this office apparently lies the democrats' only hope among the state's top three posts.

For governor, McKay is opposed by State Sen. Lew Wallace; for secretary of state, Newberry is opposed by Byron G. Carney of Milwaukie. Neither Wallace nor Carney are conceded a chance. But there are those who say Belton may be given a good race for the state treasurership by democratic State Sen. Walter Pearson of populous Portland. The odds, however, remain heavily in Belton's favor as this is written.

On a statewide basis, in addition to the all-important board of control, there are two other offices to be filled—that of U. S. senator, wherein Incumbent Corden, on the basis of his record in Washington, is expected to win handily over able State Rep. Manly J. Wilson, democrat; and

Health Instructors Arrive for Tour

Simon A. McNeely and Elsa Schneider, specialists in health instruction and physical education, elementary education division, U. S. office of education, have arrived in Oregon to spend 10 days working with elementary teachers, supervisors and specialists in boys' and girls' elementary programs.

In Salem on October 18 and 19, McNeely and Miss Schneider will appear at a meeting of elementary and junior high school principals.

Youngster Injured When Hit by Auto

Kent Tiernan, four-year-old son of Mrs. Robert E. Tiernan, 1584 High st., escaped with minor injuries Monday afternoon when struck by an auto driven by Ernest G. Wekander, Salem route 8, in the 1500 block of South High street.

Wekander told city police the youth darted into the street and he was unable to stop in time to avoid the accident. The boy was examined by a physician after being taken home by city first aid men.

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The question has been raised "Were those recent letters by the SALEM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE addressed on the same machines as PGE power bills?" COMPARE THAT, TOO! What? Another Wall Street hoax!

Pd. Adv. by Board of Directors, Salem Electric, Dr. O. A. Olson.

Historians Fail to Agree on Columbus

By Saul Pett
AP Newsfeatures Writer

For the father of his country, there are appropriate ceremonies at the tomb in Mount Vernon on Washington's birthday.

For the savior of his country, flowers are laid at the grave in Springfield on Lincoln's birthday.

But for the man who discovered America, you take your choice on Columbus Day (today, October 12). You may lay a wreath at the grave of Christopher Columbus in Santo Domingo (Ciudad Trujillo), Dominican Republic, or at the grave of Christopher Columbus in Seville, Spain.

In the two places, 3,000 miles apart, there are two graves, two coffins, two sets of mortal remains, both bearing the name of the great voyager. But which is the right one?—That's a question still not settled although old Chris has been dead these 442 years. And if one is Columbus, who is the other?

Experts like Samuel Eliot Morison, recognized authority on Columbus, say the weight of evidence favors the Dominican claim. But the Spaniards have never officially given up the ghost.

But before you run to the U. N. with this problem, let's start first with the known, the undisputed facts, as summed up by Morison.

Chris, a tired old admiral by then, died May 20, 1506, in Valladolid, Spain. He was first buried in the Church of San Francisco at Valladolid but in 1509 the body was removed by order of his son, Don Diego, to the Carthusian monastery of Santa

Maria de las Cuevas in Seville. The son, also an admiral, also was buried there later. Well, in or about 1541, by Don Diego's wishes, his body and that of his father were removed to Santo Domingo, where Columbus had set up the first Spanish settlement in the new world. The bodies were interred before the high altar of the Santo Domingo cathedral on the gospel side.

Apparently any monument or inscription was removed or covered up because by 1780 visitors could find no information on the exact site of the remains except that they were somewhere under the pavement.

In 1798, when Santo Domingo was ceded to France, the Duke of Veragua didn't like the idea of his ancestor's remains remaining on French Republic soil. Excavations were dug near the high altar on the gospel side and a small stone vault was unearthed, containing human remains and some lead plates about a foot long which evidently were those of the casket.

All this was placed in a new lead coffin, on the assumption it was Columbus' and transferred with elaborate, solemn ceremony to Havana and reinterred in the cathedral there. Then 1896, when Spain lost Cuba the casket was moved again, this time back to the cathedral in Seville. This was just 50 years ago last month.

Something had happened in 1877. The Spaniards apparently had refused to believe it. The presbytery of the Santo Domingo cathedral was being enlarged and another vault was found, along the wall on the gos-

pel side of the altar. Inside was a lead casket, 42 by 21 centimeters, which contained some bones, dust and a small lead bullet.

On its front and the ends, the casket had the letters "CCA," which experts thought stood for "Cristobal Colon Almirante," which is the Spanish way of saying "Christopher Columbus, Admiral."

On top of the coffin lid was the inscription: "D. de la A. Per. Ate." This has been interpreted as, "Descubridor de la America Primer Almirante," or "Discoverer of America, First Admiral."

A year later, a small plate, which had previously gone unnoticed, was found. This says Morison, evidently was the original coffin plate and it, too, had a set of abbreviations interpreted as "Last (or sole) remains of the first admiral, Christopher Columbus, Discoverer."

All these pronouncements in 1877 and 1878, caused quite a fuss between Spain and Santo Domingo. Charges of trickery and forgery issued forth from Spain against the ecclesiastics of Santo Domingo, especially the Archbishop there.

Well, if it wasn't Columbus' remains which were taken to Havana and then to Spain, whose were?

For Morison, the answer is quite definite. In 1795, he says, the first bomb found actually contained the remains of Don Diego, the second admiral and son of the discoverer, and it is his ashes which now repose in Seville.

But proof positive is still lacking, you take your choice.