

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
From First Statesman, March 23, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY  
CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher

(Entered at the postoffice at Salem, Oregon, as second class matter under act of congress March 3, 1879. Published every morning except Monday. Business office 215 S. Commercial, Salem, Oregon. Telephone 3-3441.)

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the republication of all the local news printed in this newspaper, as well as all AP news dispatches.

MEMBER PACIFIC COAST DIVISION OF BUREAU OF ADVERTISING  
Advertising Representatives—Ward-Griffith Co., New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Detroit.

MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATION

By Mail (In Advance)		By City Carrier	
One month	1.00	One month	1.00
Six months	5.00	Six months	5.00
One year	10.00	One year	10.00

## "Good Neighbor" Limit

Hugh Baillie, president of the United Press, home from a five-month tour of South America where he interviewed numerous big-wigs, reports that they feel the United States dropped its good neighbor policy when the war ended, and with it the threat of German invasion of the southern continent. Of South Americans, Baillie said:

"They want our sympathy and understanding. They want U. S. economic assistance but not U. S. thinking. American business is welcome in most of the countries, particularly in Chile and Peru, which are badly in need of dollars."

The United States did dish out the dollars and military supplies to SA in the Roosevelt era, successfully outbidding the axis for favor. And the stream dried up when the war ended. At Bogota the announcement of Secretary Marshall that a half billion was being made available for Latin American countries in the Marshall plan met with a chilly reception: They wanted a whole lot more.

There's a limit to what the United States can carry of world needs. To weaken our own strength to support others in a style to which they are not accustomed injures this nation and does no permanent good to others unless they get on their own feet. South America profited by the war. It suffered no war losses, no bombings, no drain on life and treasure. It should be able to forge ahead to develop its resources with its own energies and capital.

Unfortunately, politics is still a chief industry in those countries. American investment runs considerable risk. Until there is greater political stability and assurance of fair dealing to foreign capital private investors will be slow to go south with their money. And the U. S. government should not continue to be Lady Bountiful to these countries.

A good neighbor gives aid in time of real need; he doesn't take over permanent support of the family next door.

## Independent Eire

The Irish dail or parliament has passed a bill to sever its relations with the British commonwealth. The act will become effective at a date to be proclaimed in early 1949. No longer will Eire have any organic connection with Great Britain or the commonwealth.

The new act, however, will effect little change in the relations between Ireland and Britain. About the only tie has been the provision of the External Relations act which provided that the British king should sign Eire's treaties and instruments in foreign relations. Expunging this requirement, which is done with no protest from Britain, completes the establishment of Eire as an independent and free state.

That Britain had no claim on Ireland was proven in the last war when Eire maintained neutrality and refused to let the ships of the Bri-

tish navy use its ports for bases. This was a very serious matter for Britain in the height of the German submarine campaign, when conveying across the Atlantic was necessary. Conditions would have been much worse had the navy and convoys and aircraft not been able to use ports and bases in northern Ireland, where the counties are still a part of Britain.

The leaders of the Irish Free State are still determined to bring all of Ireland under the one government. This will be their next goal. There have been some hints that the labor government might be agreeable to such a consolidation; but probably it still is a long way off. Prejudices die hard in Ireland, and the British themselves will be loath to assent to the loss of northern Ireland through its union with Eire.

Relations between the Irish and the English have shown improvement. Ireland depends largely on the British market; and Britain has announced it will not treat citizens of Ireland as aliens. After the centuries of strife between the two it is refreshing to learn that the two peoples are learning to live side by side, at peace and with mutual respect and freedom of travel and commerce. If the English and the Irish can learn to do this, there is hope for other peoples and nations.

## Better Accommodations for Session

Salem is going to be in better position to take care of the legislators this session than before. Both the big hotels, the Marion and the Senator, have been engaged in extensive programs of construction and remodeling. The old Marion has refurbished its rooms, reconstructed its lobby and dining room and coffee shop. The Senator has expanded, completing its addition and installing a complete new dining department, with several private dining rooms. Then there are additional or enlarged restaurants in and adjacent to Salem.

Charges are going to be higher than ever (a situation not confined to Salem) but accommodations are going to be better and more ample.

These improvements merit commendation for the owners, as well as patronage, for they help to make Salem a comfortable as well as attractive capital city.

Remember the very high prices for meat last spring and summer? That was the time to be in the meat packing business, for sure. Well, the financial reports of the big meat packers are coming out. Armour's shows a \$2,000,000 loss. Swift & company made less money than the year before. Cudahy and Wilson had lower profits, too. A packing house strike and decline in meat prices ate into profits. Evidently the housewife's resistance to high meat prices brought results.

## State Department Revisions Studied

Editor's note: Joseph Alsop has left for Europe and his reports from Berlin, Paris, Rome, Belgrade and London will shortly begin appearing in this space.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25—

There is now at least a chance that something will actually be done to bring order out of the chaos in which the state department operates, although every previous such attempt has failed abysmally since the days of John A. Dams. A Hoover commission on the state department, in a yet unpublished report, has recommended a long overdue and far-reaching reorganization of the department. And perhaps this time some sort of action will result.

The basic problem which the report holds is that of responsibility and authority. As things now stand, there are just four men in the state department with authority to act on American foreign policy in any of its aspects and in any part of the world. These are the secretary, the under secretary, the counselor and the chief planning officer.

At present, all four of these officers, George C. Marshall, Robert A. Lovett, Charles E. Bohlen and George Kennan, are men of great ability and energy. But they are badly overburdened. And this concentration of authority in so few hands has led to a sort of paralysis in the lower ranks.

One consequence is that in order to spread responsibility where no individual can take final decisions, a grotesque committee system, fantastically time-consuming, has developed. (One wag has suggested that the whole song of Foggy Bottom, as the state department is not very

affectionately known, should be "Set Up Another Committee," sung to the tune of "Give Us Another Old Fashioned.") This committee system has inevitably led to a tendency to shove all but the most absolutely inescapable decisions under the rug, in the same way that a lazy man puts off answering a letter until it is no longer necessary to answer it.

The Hoover subcommittee, headed by Harvey Bundy and assisted by Grafton Rogers, has attacked this messy situation from two different directions. In the first place, they suggest that the load at the top be spread. They recommend the appointment of two additional deputy under secretaries, one with responsibility for "high-level operational policy"—in other words, to take the important day-to-day policy decisions—and one to take over all responsibility for the dull but necessary routine of administering the department.

Moreover, the report recommends a new assistant secretary to deal with congress (a vitally important job now assigned to Counselor Bohlen as one of his innumerable duties) and an assistant secretary to deal with the general public. But the most striking recommendation calls for four new "regional" assistant secretaries, and one assistant secretary for "multilateral affairs." Within broad limits, laid down by the secretary it would be up to the four regional assistant secretaries to make their own decisions in their own areas—Europe, the Near East and Africa, the Far East and the Western Hemisphere. Meanwhile, the assistant secretary for multilateral affairs would act as a sort of mediator among them, to keep the lines uncrossed.

Thus in each geographic area there would be one man with real authority. Accordingly, the buck-passing committee system, lay the making of decisions, should wither away. Moreover, the top officers should be given what they so desperately need, time to think. If these recommendations are put into effect, it will be one

of those events which are much more important than they seem to be. The way in which the state department is organized was all very well for a time when the United States could shuffle along comfortably enough with little or no foreign policy. But now, unfortunately, the United States must have a foreign policy, intelligently conceived and decisively carried out, if we are to survive. Some such sweeping reorganization as that recommended by Bundy and Rogers is essential if the state department is to do its job.

Yet there is a further problem, aside from internal reorganization of the department, which obviously has worried the authors of the report, but which they have not successfully attacked. The state department is the agency of the government charged with making foreign policy. Yet there are vast areas of policy in which the department has either lost of abdicated its authority. One has only to remember the independence with which Gen. Lucius Clay and Gen. Douglas MacArthur operate in Germany and Japan, or the way ECA Administrator Paul Hoffman appeared recently to revise American policy in China, or the serious charges hurled on his own hook by ECA Deputy Howard Bruce at Great Britain, thus infuriating the only dependable ally, to recognize this fact.

As a consequence, American foreign policy has shown a tendency to go galloping off in several directions at once, which is certainly a dangerous tendency in these times. One of the reasons has been the weakness of the state department, and the internal strengthening recommended by Bundy and Rogers may help in time to correct the situation.

The creation of the National Security Council—and the Bundy-Rogers report recommends more such bodies—has been a step in the right direction. But if American foreign policy is to have the kind of unity and firm over-all direction which the times require, much more remains to be done. (Copyright, 1948, New York Herald Tribune, Inc.)

## CHICKEN IN EVERY POT



## Conservation Measures Heartening As State's Initial Heritage Dwindles

By Marguerite Wittwer Wright

In this, Oregon's centennial year, no subject has been discussed with more pride and frequency than the "progress" the state has made in the past 100 years.

The record of the region's development from the primeval state is expressed in the language of statistics: numbers of inhabitants, building permits, automobiles, telephones, electric meters, industrial and agricultural production, bank deposits, income tax returns . . .

But the boosters' hymn to these trademarks of civilization is equally a requiem for Oregon's patrimony.

The less admirable record of waste and misuse of Oregon's original resources shows there are two sides to "development" that mere change does not necessarily mean "for the better," and that true progress implies concern for the future.

### Much Non-renewable

Of Oregon's precious heritage of resources, only the forests are renewable. Minerals taken from the earth cannot be replaced. Animals and fish once dead will not reproduce their kind. Topsoil washed into the sea will not return with the rainclouds.

No estimate has been made of the total soil loss in Oregon during the past 100 years but D. A. Williams, acting regional conservator, reckoning from the current year's loss of 22,000,000 tons, indicates that 440,000,000 tons of soil has been washed or blown away since cultivation began.

Most of this topsoil has been from cropland, some from the much larger acreage of rangeland, and a very small portion from the forestlands of the state.

### Gold Deposits Remain

There are no expert estimates of Oregon's mineral patrimony and no accurate records of the tonnage and value of the state's mineral production. The U. S. bureau of mines says that about \$140,000,000 worth of gold has been mined since 1852 and F. W. Libbey, director of the state department of geology and mineral industries, has no doubt a "great amount" of gold remains in the ground.

Other than gold, mineral production in Oregon is a relatively unexploited resource and Libbey feels the mining industry as a whole cannot be criticized for lack of conservation practices. Possibly the chromite and quicksilver reserves were wastefully depleted when the wartime required mining without adequate provision for developing replacements.

### Deposits Unscratched

It is only in recent years that there has been a great demand for non-metallic minerals used in construction and so Oregon's supply of limestone, pumice, perlite, diatomite and silica has hardly been scratched. The same is true of coal and clay, aluminum and iron; depletion of these materials is hardly noticeable compared to the potential remaining. And there is an "almost limitless" supply of sand, gravel and rock.

Accurate figures on wildlife are equally vague. No one knows what the animal population was 100 years ago because all surveys are comparatively recent . . . as recent as the increasing pressure on wildlife. During the past 30 years winter range limitation, intensive farming, dams, irrigation, reclamation, industrial and municipal pollution, disease, predators and hunters have reduced the resource.

### Mountain Sheep Gone

About 10 years ago the last of Oregon's native mountain sheep were seen in the Walla Walla mountains, but they seem to be gone now. Clark B. Walsh of the state game commission reports: "Unregulated trapping has completely

eliminated beaver from many areas where they once abounded. A century ago, the Cascades produced more fox than any other region in the nation; now fur fox is raised on farms. The martens has almost been exterminated and overtrapping has made the other very scarce.

### Fish Life Declines

The fish population in Oregon has declined sharply during the past 100 years although accurate figures before 1928 are not available. The first fish cannery produced 4,000 cases of salmon in 1867 and by 1895 700,000 cases were recorded. Then the pack decreased from year to year until about 1910 when artificial propagation began to raise the supply.

Since 1928, however, the chinook catch has declined gradually; two million less pounds of salmon were caught in the Columbia river in 1946 than in 1928. The blueback salmon, one of the most valuable species, is in an advanced stage of depletion and Columbia river steelhead trout landings shrink every year. Reports on the salmon populations of coastal rivers are equally pessimistic.

### Industry Almost Gone

The seafood situation seems to be worse than the game fish problem. The oyster industry, one of the oldest fisheries in the state, has practically disappeared. Heavy exploitation of stocks caused a devastating decline and only prompt action will save the native oysters and the industry, fish commission reports indicate.

Razor clam beds off the coast are producing only a minor fraction of their former yield and production of bay clams is not being maintained. The large crabs that used to abound in bays are found only off shore and stream pollution has threatened to exterminate the oysters.

As with fish and wildlife, Oregon's forests seemed endless when the pioneers came and it was not until around 1930, after an exceptionally big cut and high prices, that the state realized the trees were not growing back as fast as they were being cut.

### Huge Cut Recorded

The total original forest area in Oregon was 29,000,000 acres and the state forestry department estimates that 150,000,000 board feet of lumber were produced in Oregon during the past century. This figure does not include veneer, shingles, lath, poles or piling.

Today there are 25,000,000 acres of commercial forest land supporting a saw-timber volume of approximately 390,000,000 board feet, lumber tally. Nearly half of Oregon's land surface of 61,000,000 acres is forest land. Of that land, 14,450,000 acres is old growth and large second growth area; 6,730,000 acres are covered with restocking and immature timber; 2,920,000 acres are not restocking properly the poorly stocked lands and cut-overs; 4,500,000 acres are non-commercial forest lands and there are 400,000 acres of hardwoods.

### Wood Prospects B-tter

Logging, forest fires and insects

**IT SEEMS TO ME**  
(Continued from page 1—)

international outlook. On the domestic side, it will be engrossed in finance problems—balancing an enlarged budget, weighing tax increases or an excess profits tax. It will have both eyes open for the business health of the country as it considers price controls, farm price legislation. Under the head of social welfare loom such questions as repeal or modification of the Taft-Hartley law, extension of old age annuities, insurance for medical care, housing, aid to education. Civil rights legislation will be pressed and fought.

Coming down to the state of Oregon, what we can see of the shape of things for the next legislature is that the session will be rugged. Drafting the spending program will be difficult under the pressures piling up. Rewriting income tax laws will give at least a two-year respite from new taxes. The collision of group interests will precipitate sharp debate.

Apparent, too, is the prospect of a lot of politics throughout the session. The democratic bloc in the legislature will be feeling its oats. Potential candidates for governor in 1950 will be using radar to test their obstacles—and digging postholes to build their fences.

All in all, both the principals in affairs, national and state, and the common people, too, should enjoy this holiday week, squeeze out of it all the peace and comfort they can. Come the new year they will have to man old trenches or dig fresh ones, for 1949 is going to be a critical year.

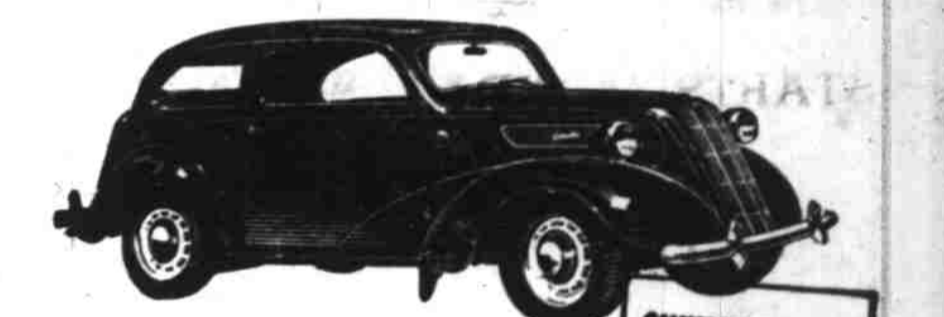
WARTIME AUTHOR DIES  
NEW YORK, Dec. 25—(AP)—Mrs. Etta Kahn Shiber, 70, author of "Paris Underground," once condemned to death by the Germans, died Thursday.

## Diary of A Sidewalk Superintendent



Almost quit my job today. Was busy overseeing the new Stevens and Son Jewelry Store (in what we used to call the 1st National Bank Building). Gave the fellows a few ideas about the doors. Seems that Sid Stevens tried to overrule me on the choice! Told the builders he wants those new solid glass doors. I told them the old doors were good enough for me. Told them folks are getting too fancy anyhow. But they wouldn't listen. Insist they want only the finest for the people in Salem. Well, I ought to let Sid do ONE thing the way he wants it. I've done everything else!

## WHY WAIT? THE ANGLIA 2-DOOR SEDAN \$1398



Lowest priced English-made car in America!

- Cruises easily at 50-55.
- Choice of 3 colors.
- Standard equipment includes leather interior, interior jacking, constant speed windshield wiper.
- Left hand drive.
- Standard size tires.
- Selected Ford Dealers carry a full supply of parts—service at Ford Dealers everywhere.
- Also see The Prefect 4-door sedan—see them today!

FORD PRODUCTS MADE IN ENGLAND SOLD ALL OVER THE WORLD

Now On Display VALLEY MOTOR CO. 375 Center Salem

## COLGAN LUMBER CO. PRESENTS: The Cameron



A HOME DESIGNED FOR AMERICAN LIVING

Overall dimensions are 44'x36'x30' with a full basement. The house has 1193 square feet of floor space and a volume of 24,384 cubic feet.

- Complete Building Supplies
- Lumber
- Millwork
- Hardware
- Insulation
- Mason Materials

The Cameron is outstanding for its closet space—coat and storage closets at the front entrance, broom and coat closets at the rear . . . The large living room has a three-way view, built-in cabinet under the corner window and a book case by the fireplace.

Complete Blueprints Available at Low Cost For Additional Information Phone or See

## Colgan Lumber Company