

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## The Klamath Institute

The Klamath county delegation in the legislature is girding itself to fight to save the Oregon Technical Institute (nee Oregon Vocational School) at Klamath Falls which occupies the former marine barracks.

This school reminds one of the plight of the small boy whose eyes were bigger than his stomach: he found he couldn't eat and digest all he wanted to. The plant looked like a bonanza: spacious grounds, attractively laid out; numerous buildings adaptable for dormitories, shops, classrooms; nice residences for staff; big gymnasium—and all for free.

The department of education's vocational division which had been wanting to get vocational schools started grabbed for it. It asked for and got \$620,000 to run the school the present biennium, expecting tuition from GI's to pay the rest of the cost. Actually it will spend nearly a million dollars of state money.

The original prospectus set up a state cost of \$260,000 for the coming biennium and \$221,000 for the one after that, with expectancy of 1,200 students in 1949-50 and 1500 in 1950-51. This was revised to 980 and 1,140 for the respective years; and the budget request for the coming biennium is \$1,818,704.

When Budget Director George K. Aiken saw that figure he reached for his red pencil and deleted it from the budget submitted to the legislature. Now Senator Phil Hitchcock and Representatives Henry Semon and Ed Geary are fighting to get this item restored, or a reasonable facsimile thereof.

These men are a strong trio. We like them and their community and heartily approve of vocational education. But there is no way of cutting the cost down to size? We don't like the report of their having to use bulldozers to push coal into the furnaces to heat the Institute. (Incidentally the experience would have been the same, or worse if Camp White hospital had been saddled onto the state.)

## Federal Gasoline Taxes

The Bend Bulletin asks when the federal treasury profited in its collection of taxes on gasoline and oil over what it expended on highways. According to information we get from the state highway department that was prior to the war when the government was spending about \$100 million a year on roads and getting some \$300 million in gas and other collections attributable to motor vehicle traffic.

In recent years the proportions have changed. Total road appropriations by congress for the fiscal year including federal and Indian reservation roads amounts to \$506 millions. The federal gas tax will yield around \$400 million this year. The 1947 receipts from tax on oil was \$34 million; and if we add the extras, on tires and tubes \$158 million, on autos, trucks and parts about \$240 million. At present the government is spending more money on roads and highways than it gets from gasoline and oil taxes.

Western states should be the last to urge that federal taxes on gasoline be removed, as suggested by Secretary of State Newbury. These states share more generously than eastern states

in the distribution, and get back considerably more than they contribute.

Somewhat related is the proposal to tax the federal government for the gasoline it uses on motor vehicles in Oregon. A bill to this effect passed the house Friday. Considering the tremendous sums the federal government is expending in Oregon it hardly seems sensible to soak it with the gasoline tax, unless that is agreeable to the government and the custom among other states.

## Churchill as Humorist

Sir Alan Herbert, former editor of "Punch" and a famous wit himself proposed to a company of friends the name of Winston Churchill as the "first humorist of the age." Churchill has won fame as statesman, journalist and orator; but he has hardly been listed as a wit. But "Topics of the Times" column in the NY Times gives some samples of his wit that seem to qualify him for Sir Alan's distinction:

Whether Mr. Churchill will care to accept the distinction of first humorist of the age thrust upon him by the famous Punch Alumnus seems doubtful. He has already refused a dukedom. But he obviously intends to continue to enlighten the House of Commons with such sallies as have made his fame as a wit. Best known of these is probably the quip, always attributed to Mr. Churchill and never disclaimed, uttered in an aside when once he saw Britain's present Chancellor of the Exchequer crossing the room, "There but for the Grace of God goes God." His longtime duel with Aneurin Bevan has brought out many thrusts like "We speak of the Minister of Health, but ought we not rather speak of the Minister of Disease?" Years ago he demolished an opponent in the House in this way: "He can best be described as one of those orators who, before they get up, do not know what they are going to say; when they are speaking, do not know what they are saying; and when they have sat down, do not know what they have said."

## New Tape Recorder

Here's a new candidate for the "long playing" record business. The makers of Scotch tape are out with a machine that will "can" music or speech on plastic or paper tape. A 600-ft. reel will play for an hour.

An electronic process is used in recording. The tape is coated with iron oxide which the recording machine magnetizes with impulses of varying intensity to convey the different sound elements.

The invention will give those in the recording business and sale of records more worries.

The Portland Oregonian in an editorial regarding the office of lieutenant governor reported that in Washington state two lieutenant governors had succeeded to the office of governor. However, it omitted a third: Louis F. Hart, who succeeded Governor Ernest Lister on the latter's death. Hart was subsequently elected to the office.

Wall street in New York, that narrow lane of finance, has been made a one-way street—"bated," comments a NY Times reporter. Don't ask which way the traffic runs: there's a church graveyard at one end, and East river at the other.

## Reds' Grip on Europe Labor Slipping

By Joseph Alsop

ROME, Jan. 27 — In this topey — turvy world, peace of fensives rarely indicate a desire for peace. This is almost certainly the case at the moment when the voices of Palmiro Togliatti, Marcel Cachin and Henry Wallace have been raised in well-trained chorus to plead for settlement of the interminable squabbling between the Soviet and the non-Soviet world.

The place to look for an explanation of this phenomenon is not in Moscow, where any change of basic policy is immensely unlikely. The place to look, rather, is in the following in Italy, France and the United States of Togliatti, Cachin and Wallace. In fact, the real motive for the propaganda barrage seems to be the progressive decline of communist appeal to the working masses in the west, plus, perhaps, the increasingly grave condition of the satellite states in eastern Europe. The inwardness of the situation is demonstrated by a series of curious facts about the communist party here in Italy: Item 1: The attempted assassination of Togliatti last spring briefly gave full control of the Italian party to the activists, Secchia and Longo. Secchia, once tried to order an armed uprising. He was frustrated by opposition within the Italian political party, but the rising actually took place prematurely in Genoa. Led by squads of their para — military organization, Genoaese communists briefly occupied such classical key points as the city power station. But when the police and carabinieri

merely showed themselves the communist bravos melted away without a shot being fired.

Item 2: Even before the Italian elections, Togliatti had ordered checks of important communist units, which showed supposed bitter — ends only 20 per cent reliable in case of severe trust. When Togliatti recovered from his wound this evidence was laid before the Moscow authorities, together with the result of Secchia's adventurism. Secchia was rebuked. Togliatti's gradualism was approved and his full authority over the Italian party was confirmed by Moscow.

Item 3: This meant, however, that the Italian communists must carry on the guerrilla warfare against the Marshall plan, mainly in the form of endless big and little political strikes, which is now the tactic of desperation of all western European communists. The communist chieftain of the party-dominated Italian Confederation of Labor, di Vittorio, at once protested. He argued that these meaningless "ineffectual" "revolutionary gymnastics," as they are called here, menace the party's vital hold on the labor movement and the working masses.

Item 4: Di Vittorio's protest was ignored in view of Moscow's direct order. Meanwhile, in November, an independent labor confederation was launched by the union leader Pastore. It has already scored substantial success. If it is joined by the non — communist Saragat socialists and the left — wing republicans, as seems ultimately probable, the independent labor confederation may be expected to become a most serious factor in the Italian labor picture.

What emerges from this picture of communist division and

renewed independent competition for control of the labor movement? There is only one possible answer. What seemed unimaginable even last year is now at least imaginable and possible. The western European communist parties are beginning to lose their grip on the labor movement, which is their basic, fundamental asset. Already in 14 months their power to hurl the workers into political strikes at will has measurably declined, as the recent failure of the strike in Milan testifies.

If the process continues, a whole new political scene may open. And the process will continue if, on the one hand, Moscow goes on using the western communist parties as naked instruments of Russian foreign policy while on the other hand conditions of life in western Europe are steadily improved. Against this background, plus such phenomena as the drastic drop in the standard of living in Czechoslovakia, one can understand the need for such propagandistic efforts as the so-called peace offensive.

Meanwhile, the question may be asked, "But what should be the American response to the peace offensive?" All the western world desires a settlement of the east — west conflict. But there is no use in attempting a settlement until Moscow is sincere. And every informed European expert agrees that when Moscow wants a serious settlement the indication will come, not in propaganda gestures, but in the form of some such delicate overture as the approach to Baron von Weizsacker that opened the negotiations for the Hitler — Stalin pact. For the present, since American policy seems to be succeeding the rule should be "More of the same medicine." (Copyright, 1949, New York Herald Tribune, Inc.)

## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

as "second-class citizens." And it is always the habit of officeholders to look on the work of their own hands and call it good. (For that matter you will find a good many residents of Multnomah county who prefer to trust legislators from upstate rather than their own county. This reflects their political, social or economic bias.) So the more than two-thirds in the legislature from outside Multnomah county steadily refuse to vote a reappointment.

The same situation prevailed in Washington state with the cow counties plus Pierce (Tacoma) ganging up to throttle King county (Seattle) until a reapportionment was initiated and adopted by the people.

Neuberger says that if his bill passes he will introduce a bill dividing Multnomah county into smaller districts to prevent the county from giving a top-heavy vote in the legislature. Maybe that's his concession to Portland Heights and Laurelhurst. But he can't divide a county into senatorial districts — the constitution forbids that.

Either we should live up to the constitution or change it. The section (six, Article IV) ought to be changed anyway to delete the reference to "white" population. That language was in the original constitution of 1857 and hasn't been changed.

In a revised section apportionment might give weight to geography (counties) as well as population. But we'll still have to regard the head-count in distributing representation. Our present system can't be called a "rotten borough" scheme as was England's until the parliament was reformed under Sir Robert Peel; but we'll have to admit that not all the upstate legislators have been first class.

A start might be made by appointing a committee to study: first, reapportionment; second, revision of the constitutional provisions respecting apportionment.

## Testimony Due In Damage Suit Involving Bus

Jurors will return at 9:30 this morning to hear arguments in the Marion county circuit court trial of a damage suit brought by Marie Gohn against Pacific Greyhound Lines, Gerald W. Jones and the General Garage company. The \$25,000 suit, which went to trial Wednesday, grew out of a Nov. 5, 1947, bus-truck collision at Midway, south of Salem.

The action, one of several arising from the crash and second to be tried, seeks damages for injuries allegedly suffered in the wreck and alleges negligence on the part of both the bus company and the garage company and Jones, the bus driver. The plaintiff was a passenger on the bus. Driver of the truck was killed.

The earlier suit which reached trial was that of Beulah Carpenter vs Pacific Greyhound lines, which resulted in a verdict for the defendant.

## With Watson at the Legislature Bill Would Cancel Governor's Hold Over Agriculture Bureau

By Ralph Watson

The Farm Bloc, speaking through the committee on agriculture of the house and house bill 158, plans to move the department of agriculture and the state board of agriculture out from under the appointment and control of the governor and set it up as a little dynasty all its own.

At the present time the governor has his finger on the pulse of the two boards by virtue of a provision of the law which says that all the officers and employees of the department shall "continue to hold their offices at the pleasure of the governor." House bill 158 snips the governor's power of patronage right off at the stem by deleting the word "governor" in the first section of the bill and substituting "state board of agriculture" in its place.

Next, the bill makes another major shift by providing that the director of agriculture, now appointed by the governor, shall in the future be appointed "by the state board of agriculture and shall serve during the pleasure of the board." And it goes on to set the board up as the Big Boss by adding that "the director in administering the department shall do so pursuant to policies which shall be prescribed by the state board of agriculture."

Division chiefs, which in the past have been appointed by the director "with the consent of the governor" under the new bill are to be appointed "with the approval of the state board of agriculture." Also, where in the past the salaries have been fixed by the director "with the approval of the governor" under the bill this will be done with the approval of the state board of agriculture.

The bill does leave the governor a toehold on the way the business of the department is run by leaving to him the naming of the seven members of the state board of agriculture — but not until after the incumbents have all served out their respective terms. The question of incumbent tenure is taken care of in section 1 of the bill which states that "it is the intention of this act that the present department of agriculture and the state board of agriculture shall be and continue as the same department and board, and that all officers and employees shall continue to hold their offices at the pleasure of the state board of agriculture or director of agriculture."

That would appear to sew the situation up pretty snugly for the board, the director and the boys now on the job. However, in a final flourish of generosity, the bill does leave the governor one little peep hole through which he can peek biennially, at what the agricultural board and its director have been doing for the two years back. It provides that the board shall, before the first of January preceding each legislative session, give a full report to the governor about what has been going on.

While the committee on agriculture is by passing the governor in house bill 158, it pauses to fix up the floor we eat in house bill 152. The latter measure starts right off in the beginning by enacting that "there exists in the diets in this country a widespread deficiency of certain food

## Dallas Fire Department Dispute Settled

DALLAS, Jan. 27—(Special)—Harmony reigned on Dallas' civic front today following a decision of the city council to purchase a 750-gallon, six-cylinder fire truck from the Mack company. This truck had been favored by members of the fire department, and a squabble which lasted three weeks was touched off when the council appeared ready to approve purchase of a different truck.

Walter Young, veteran fire chief who resigned at the start of the dispute, said Thursday that he was willing to continue as head of the department. His resignation had never been subject to official action by Mayor Hollis Smith, but David Moser served as acting chief during the controversy.

Councilmen also could hold their decision as a victory, since they had opposed the Mack truck on the grounds that the bid was too high. Such argument was eliminated this week when a representative of the Mack company offered the city \$1190 for the old truck which the new equipment will replace. This development occurred at a special council meeting called to give salesmen from all companies bidding on the truck a chance to speak in behalf of their equipment. Offers from other companies for the old truck ranged from \$100 to \$300. All including the Mack company's, were "token" offers, with the old piece of equipment to remain with the Dallas fire department.

The net bid for the Mack truck was \$15,553.99 after deducting the old-truck allowance. Bids from other companies ranged from \$14,883 to \$16,698. Three bids were lower than the one accepted, but the council agreed that the preference of firemen for the Mack truck more than offset the difference in price. Portland is the only Oregon city required by law to accept the low bid.

Delivery of the new truck is slated for late in 1949.

## Collegian Staff Changes Made

Three changes of editors on the Willamette Collegian, university student weekly publication, were announced by Eric Bergman, Collegian editor, yesterday. The changes, affecting the society, feature and sports department, are effective today which is the last publishing date for the Collegian for the present semester.

Donna Adams, Portland, will be replaced by Mary Lee, Salem, society editor. Stan Hawk, Salem, will relieve Norman Stone, Salem, as feature editor. Dale Reynolds, Grants Pass, will relieve James Oakes, Portland, as sports editor.

The new society and sports editors served as reporters during the past semester and Hawk was copy reader. John Connet, Albany, will take over Hawk's former post.

## DAV to Revive Fund Drive

The campaign for construction funds will be resumed with nearly \$40,000 still needed, it was announced Thursday by the Veterans' Living Memorial association which has started construction of a veterans building at Church and Marion streets.

The drive was re-activated at a meeting this week of association and civic leaders with Gov. Douglas McKay, a trustee of the Disabled American Veterans' Salem chapter, which initiated the building project. Mayor R. L. Elstrom was appointed chairman of the campaign committee and Dr. Harry A. Brown, co-chairman. William Exline of KOCO will handle publicity.

The new building will provide permanent meeting home for Gold Star Mothers and Disabled American Veterans and will include an auditorium.

## Author



Mrs. Philip Brandt, Salem route 1, author of an article in the Better Homes & Gardens magazine about establishing a home in a pioneer log house at Zena.

## Magazine Article Describes Home in Zena Community

"We Chose a Farmhouse" is an article in the February issue of Better Homes & Gardens magazine by Mrs. Philip Brandt, Salem route 1. The article and accompanying pictures describe how the Brandts established a comfortable home in a pioneer log house at Zena community.

Mrs. Brandt has a degree in landscape architecture from the University of Oregon. She is a fourth generation Oregonian.

## State Totals Pay to County VA Officials

Nineteen Oregon counties employing veterans' service officers, including Marion and Benton, received a total of \$12,177 from the state department of veterans' affairs during the 1947 — 48 fiscal year, it was reported Thursday. The sum represents reimbursements to the counties of 25 per cent of the cost of maintaining full or part time paid service officers, department director William F. Gaarenstroom said.

Marion county, where H. C. (Hub) Salfeld is service officer, received \$1,000 from the department. Benton county received \$649. Mrs. Bertha McIntyre is service officer there. Polk county lists Ed Hamilton as service officer but did not pay his expenses and so receives no state reimbursement, Gaarenstroom said.

The department's ceiling payment of \$1,000 to any one county has been altered for 1948-49 fiscal year to \$1,200 as a maximum. Twenty — two counties were listed last year as having service officers.

## Auto, Engine Hurt in Wreck

An automobile and switch engine were damaged Thursday morning in a two-way tangle in the 1900 block of Broadway street.

There were no injuries reported in the collision of the engine, piloted by Fred Bothman, 1288 Chemawa rd., and the auto driven by Thurman R. Lord, 550 S. Winter st.

Lord told police he looked to the left and then to the right, but not in time to avoid striking the engine. The front of Lord's 1947 Dodge sedan was damaged and the foot board on the switch engine was battered.

## Colds

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## Military Rites Saturday for Pfc. Satter

The body of PFC Russell Satter, Salem marine who was killed in the landing on Saipan, has arrived here, and funeral services will be Saturday, February 5, with military rites. Satter, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Satter, 3249 Center st., was killed in action June 23, 1944. He had enlisted in 1941, leaving Willamette university, where he was a prominent athlete. He had served at Guadalcanal and Tarawa before the Saipan landing.

Young Satter was born Nov. 25, 1921, in Oregon City and attended grade school here. He graduated in 1940 from Salem high school, where he was active in sports.

Survivors, in addition to his parents, are three brothers, Richard of Eugene, Darrell and Robert of Salem; one sister, Donna Jean of Salem; a daughter, Sharon Rose of Pendleton. The father is a typesetter for The Statesman Publishing Co.

Funeral arrangements are in charge of Howell-Edwards company, where services will be at 1:30 p.m. Burial will be at Belcrest Memorial park, with a detail from the marine corps reserve.

Until 1890 all indigo, one of the most important dyestuffs, was obtained from plants. At that time a synthetic was manufactured.