

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Military Situation in the Orient

General MacArthur gives quite a dependable survey of the military situation in the far east in his interview with a United Press correspondent. The commander in Japan is quoted as saying that if Japan should be attacked the United States certainly should defend her; and this: "But I do not believe Russia will attack Japan."

The general's analysis of the situation in the Orient is quite convincing. He doesn't see how Russia could undertake an offensive against Japan unless she had mastery of the air and had a far eastern fleet or could neutralize our own fleet. These are out of her reach now.

MacArthur reports that our airfields on Okinawa can scour the skies from Vladivostok to Singapore. Russia has no eastern fleet and only a limited air force. It would have difficulty supplying an army at the end of its long Trans-Siberian railroad. The situation would be changed of course if China became an active ally; but even then, lacking both air force and navy invasion of Japan would be foolhardy.

Japan's role in the far east, thinks MacArthur, should be a Switzerland, that is, a neutral. His goal is to help Japan become self-supporting. Now we are spending hundreds of millions of dollars to help feed the Japanese.

In short the menace in the far east is not immediately large from a military standpoint as regards either Japan or the United States. On this coast we need cultivate no worries of enemies dropping on us out of the skies or sailing up our rivers.

Back to the YMCA

It will be something of a homecoming for Carlton Greider to get back to the YMCA. He was on the staff there when he went off with the marines. A wicked slug in the task of cleaning out Japs from an island cave destroyed his eyesight; but that didn't daunt Carlton. After a period of treatment he returned to Salem and took a position in the employment service where he was of great assistance to veterans during the period of postwar adjustment.

But he was trained for Y service; his unique talents equip him well for youth guidance and encouragement and direction of numerous adult activities. Inspired he is also inspiring; he will make a great contribution to that powerhouse of good works, the Salem YMCA.

The same day the senate voted to fill a bill increasing the number of members of the highway commission from three to five the house game committee voted to increase the number of members of the game commission from five to seven. The highway commission administers a far larger budget which affects the state's economy far more vitally than does the game commission. We see no advantage to the state as to the cause of game conservation to increase the number on the game commission.

U.S. 'Must Escape Europe Reaction'

By Joseph Alsop
WASHINGTON, March 2—In the long night of a trans-Atlantic air journey, it is not easy for the returning traveler to sort out positive conclusions. Random impressions float too insistently through the mind—the pale beauty of a sunny winter day in Rome—the extreme oddity of spats, when worn by a belligerent Yugoslav commander—the dreary reminders, in an evening with the occupiers of Germany, of a pretentious little colonial dinner party in Rangoon before the war.

One conclusion none the less stands out, even in the stuffy purg of the airplane cabin. In Europe, a stalemate has been reached in the world struggle between the West and the Soviet empire. And this is true because the Soviet power drive to capture Western Europe has been decisively frustrated.

It is tempting to forget the magnitude of this event, and to argue that the Soviet drive westward was always bound to fall anyway, because the Kremlin was not yet ready to employ the Red army. But the truth is that only 15 short months ago, the fate of Western Europe balanced on a knife edge. If the United States had not then held out a helping hand, the boldest Italian leaders have confessed to this correspondent that they would have lost the heart to resist the communists. In that event, Italy would have been lost. After a longer or shorter interlude of dictatorship of the right, France would have gone also. And a whole long, terrible chain reaction would have been set in resistless train.

That danger, as passed now, the Marshall plan gave the democratic forces courage and means to carry on their struggle. In the more hopeful atmosphere thus created, the political and economic energies of the Euro-

peans themselves were partly liberated. Everywhere there has occurred a patchy but decisive improvement, and everywhere in Western Europe, the communist parties are in retreat.

This does not mean, however, that the American responsibility ends with the Marshall plan. New problems are pressing forward. The first problem we must tackle with bold imagination is the problem of our own relationship to the internal politics of the Western European countries we are aiding. Here we must face an important fact. Although the major communist danger has passed, Western Europe will never be restored to full political health as long as the communist parties control the labor movements.

Fortunately, the communists' hold on this basic asset is being challenged by non-communist labor leaders. And simultaneously the communists' own leadership has been weakened from within by the Kremlin's use of the Western European labor groups as mere naked tools of Russian foreign policy. This is the meaning of the Cachen-Togliatti "peace offensive," which is intended to muddle the mass of workers. This is also the meaning of the brutal purge of the communist labor chiefs in France, which is meant to destroy all possible "deviationists."

As is suggested by the walkout of Moche, the French "nine workers' leader, these tactics only reveal a grave, fundamental weakness. During the next year or two, the non-communist groups will have an excellent chance to capture the French and Italian labor movements from the communists, provided one condition is fulfilled.

These groups must necessarily stand forward as pro-American. Their position will be undermined, and the whole task of rebuilding a healthy non-communist left in Europe will be brusquely halted, if America meanwhile stands forward as the champion of European reaction. In our own hard-headed interests, Americans must appear as

It will give two more ambitious sportsmen a chance to serve on the commission, which will add to the disputes and to the expense. What is needed more is emphasis on the administrative side and less on the top-deck policy-making division of the game department.

The state is losing one of the ablest of its younger attorneys with the resignation of George Neuner, jr. as assistant attorney general to enter private practice in Roseburg. He was named to the justice department position by the late I. H. Van Winkle. After his return from military service he was assigned to the state highway department as assistant counsel under J. M. Devers. In his work he has demonstrated superior talents as a lawyer. He has brains, industry, and with them a fine personality and high character. He has a splendid opportunity in Roseburg which is the center of great development; but the state should keep its eye on him to recall him to responsible service.

One good thing has come to pass as a result of the clash between Governor Hall and Liquor Commissioner Joe Freck last summer: the purchasing department of the board of control will handle purchases of supplies and equipment for the liquor commission, except liquor. The central office at Salem is much better set up to handle purchases of office supplies, automobiles, etc. It serves all other state departments and institutions. The liquor board will realize economies through this arrangement.

The universe is billions of years old. Proof of its age is supplied by use of the 200-inch telescope on Mt. Palomar which revealed nebulae so far off (six trillion miles) it takes a billion light years for the light from the cluster to reach the earth. Archbishop Usher whose chronology dated creation at 5005 B.C. was born too soon.

At a Kelso smeltbake a senator from Port Angeles ate 36 seven-inch smelt in 10 minutes. The smelt must have thought he was a branch of the Cowliwz river.

"Morse Blasts," "Morse Flays" — these are headlines in the papers, our own included. Does the junior senator from Oregon never speak mildly; or is the choice of a scorching verb an occupational disease of headline writers?

Pravda, after telling the Russians that in the USA every seventh citizen of an American town goes hungry, chirrup that "the soviet system has led our people onto the path of the free life of socialism, filled with joyous labor and creative inspiration" . . . but not much good food. How many Russians eat white bread?

Pulling a Walterwinchell on KSLM: the word is orology or orography.

AMNESIA IS A STRANGE DISEASE



New Liquor License Bill Would Add Revenue to State Coffers

By Ralph Watson
The house committee on alcoholic control has put the bill under the licensees of the liquor control commission in house bill 290, to the tune of an \$85,827 annual increase in the cost of doing business with the commission; this on the basis of the 1947-48 records of the commission. In the past year the revenues from the various kinds of licenses issued by the commission totalled \$280,426. According to the schedules now written in house bill 290, and on the same number of licensees, the next year's revenues would be \$366,253 approximately.

This increase comes as a result of an equalizing process, so it is explained, under which some of the licensees are given a reduction in their contributions to the commission, while in others the fare is boosted. For instance the wholesale malt beverage license has been increased from \$125 the year to \$150 and these fees will yield in the aggregate \$20,137 more than in the past year.

The three classes of restaurants are charged to the tune of \$90,137 for their rights to serve liquor with their meals. The straight restaurant license allows the sale of malt beverages and table wine with meals, and allows no entertainment. The "qualified restaurant" license, in addition is permitted to mix, store and serve high proof liquors for consumption on the premises. It permits no entertainment or dancing. The "unrestricted" license in addition to the other features permits dancing or other forms of entertainment. No drinks can be served in any restaurant without bona fide meals.

The class A restaurant pays a license fee of \$125, the qualified place pays \$250 and the unrestricted place is charged \$400 annually. Under present law all restaurant licenses are \$150 the year. The package store selling a percent malt beverage and table wines was raised from \$50 to \$75 in the original bill but this caused so much backfire that the committee met Wednesday noon and scaled the fee down to \$35.

The largest revenue producer in the list is the retail malt beverage license, which is estimated to produce \$129,487 annually, the individual license being set at \$75. It permits the sale of package malt beverage, for consumption on and off the premises.

The bill was sent back to committee Wednesday afternoon for the purpose of cutting out the increase in license fees charged for wines and package store licenses. Its main provisions seemingly have met with the approval of the liquor commission, its controversial feature being the "master locker" amendment which was incorporated in the original bill as engrossed by the house.

who are both informed about the Red Cross and grateful for its work. The Red Cross does many other things than just rush with food and clothing to spots hit by cyclones and floods. It is still a ministering angel to service men and veterans and their families. It has special projects like lifesaving instruction and now the blood bank. These are all community chores which the Red Cross does and does well.

It is a genuine privilege for the American people to share in this great enterprise. The Red Cross is so universal in its service and in its appeal that all Americans feel a degree of proprietorship in it. The response to its annual appeal is always good. This year there should be a generous outpouring of funds, especially in this area. We had an example in the Vanport flood of last year of how valuable the Red Cross is in time of calamity. It moved in promptly and with its efficient organization and adequate resources provided relief that was needed, spared the locality very heavy burdens and succeeded in getting families rehoused and relocated.

WU Fraternity Pledge 'Turned Over to FBI'

The case of the handcuffed pledge was written into the books of Willamette university fraternity pranks this week.

When George Juba, a Portland student pledged to Sigma Chi, was found handcuffed and chained to Dean Raymond A. Withey's office door, it was the last link of a so-called disciplining by the fraternity.

A few nights before, Juba had been handcuffed and turned out for the evening for violating a fraternity rule for allegedly giving a girl his pledge pin.

Seeking help in freeing himself, Juba walked to a nearby service station whose skeptical operator notified FBI. The FBI got in touch with college authorities to confirm the prank. Dean Withey asked all four fraternities for information. His answer was finding Juba chained to his door, along with a sign, "Wanted by FBI."

A bill to set the election of precinct committeemen and committeewomen for the primary election instead of the general election was passed in the senate Wednesday and sent to the house. The measure repeals the present law enacted in the 1947 session. It was introduced by the Marion county legislative delegation. The legislators said election of the officials in the general election resulted in confusion.

Business Good At Postoffice

It's a rare week-day now when Salem postoffice doesn't cancel at least 40,000 pieces of outgoing mail, according to Postmaster Albert C. Gragg. The figure reached 62,800 Tuesday, 20 per cent above a comparable day in 1948.

All February days shows considerable gain, said Gragg. And while it isn't so easy to check the count, incoming mail is also showing a great increase. The postmaster also announced that the lobby stamp-vending machine has been altered to issue 2-cent stamps in slot which formerly sold airmails, when they were 5 cents. The various openings now provide five one-cent stamps for a nickel, five twos for a dime and five threes for a dime and a nickel.

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At Salem Schools

By James Cooke
Statesman School Correspondent

SALEM HIGH SCHOOL
Infractions of etiquette were demonstrated at a Girl's league assembly Wednesday morning. Rules which are commonly broken were pantomimed by a cast, with a narrator explaining the action.

Participants in the program were Gordon Sloan, Gwen Fry, Dick Howard, Marijo Ogle, Don Herring, Joan Jacqua, Jack Forristel, Leadedell Davis, Carolyn Messmer, Colleen McNeil, Mike McManus, Jeanette Martin, Bobby Jo Morris, Gary Campbell, Pat Miller, Dorothy Cannon, Warren Mulkey and Sylvia Hastings. Edna Hill was pianist. Scenes included buying flowers, meeting chaperones at dances, restaurant manners, inattention at club meetings and over-attention between a boy and girl when walking down a street.

PARRISH JUNIOR HIGH
Committees to watch student behavior were appointed Tuesday morning at Parrish by Don Smith, student body president. They are: Buildings and grounds, Carol Hewitt, chairman, Kenny Lottia, Jean Schoneboom and Jerry Snyder.

Control (student behavior in assemblies and in the halls), Tom Steeves, chairman, Caroline Giese, Viola Wilcox, Jackson Smithson and John Verstage.

Attendance, Victor Barnick, chairman, Rex Laton and Joanne Stetler.
Lawn patrol, Lanny Dibbern, chairman, Clayton Sanders and Richard Reitzenstein. This group will report on mistreatment of the grounds.

Bleacher committee (to check bleachers in gym at noon after students have eaten), Harriet Hughes, chairman, Bonnie Jenk-

3-Day Stock Rally Snaps

NEW YORK, March 2 (AP)—A small overall decline in today's stock market snapped a three-day rally.

Final prices showed a narrow margin of losses over gains. Most changes were fractional. In sharp contrast to unusually slow trading was the negotiation of one of the largest deals in the recent history of the exchange. A block of 100,000 shares of Western Air Lines sold at 5 1/4 for a loss of 1/4.

Trading otherwise was skimpy even for these days of sluggish markets. Turnover of 690,000 shares compared with 720,000 yesterday.

The Associated Press average of 60 stocks dipped 2 of one point to 62.6. Of the 920 issues which changed hands, 346 declined while 317 advanced.

The 100,000 shares of Western Air Line stock, according to a report in Wall Street, was purchased by the investment firm of Burnham & Co. for its own account as well as others.

inson, Lynn Asher and Rodney Russell.

RICHMOND SCHOOL
A "Famous Folk Parade" was the topic of a recent Richmond assembly. Each member of Mrs. Mary Swigart's fourth grade represented a famous man born in February by showing pictures which made him familiar with the public and by giving a short speech about him.

People who were represented and the students who portrayed them are: George Handel, Nancy Ladd; Charles Lindbergh, Marilyn Hallisy; Charles Dickens, Phyllis Kay Morris; Thomas Edison, Rodney Schmidt; Abraham Lincoln, Larry Merk; William Cody, Barney McCargar; Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Mary Mitchell; and George Washington, Larry Hicks. David Ashby was master of ceremonies.

Kathy Miller gave a tap dance; Douglas Edminster read "How to Be a Hero"; and Marcia Humphreys gave a minuet "A Poem."

PGE Stock Dividend Set

Thomas W. Delzell, chairman of the board of Portland General Electric company, has announced that the board declared a dividend of 45 cents per share on the company's common stock. The dividend will be paid on April 15, 1949 to the stockholders of record at the close of business March 12.

The annual stockholders' meeting will be held at 2 p.m. April 6 at the Portland hotel in Portland. PGE's earnings in 1948 were \$2,604,967, equivalent to \$2.81 per share on the 998,967 shares of stock outstanding. Operating expenses, which were 16.9 per cent more than in 1947, virtually offset the increase of \$2,104,654 in gross revenues over the previous year.

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