

# House Passes Bill to Force Able Children To Support Parents

## Gas Tax, License Plate Boosts Voted

By Wendell Webb  
Managing Editor, The Statesman

The house voted unanimous approval Tuesday to a bill requiring that financially-able children shall contribute to the support of needy parents who otherwise would be on the state's public assistance rolls. The quick passage climaxed day-long bickering in the house over a senate-approved bill which provides that the person least negligent in a damage case shall be entitled to recover even though some negligence is proven against him (defeated 32 to 25), and over a house bill giving each county fair \$7500 annually in pari-mutuel receipts (passed 48 to 8).

# IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

Where there's so much cigarette smoke there must be some fire. And there is.

The house of representatives is preparing a three-way deal which links soldiers' bonus with cigarettes. It is not quite a Siamese-twin affair, but the program is definitely three-in-one, and simmers down to "all for one, and one for all."

First there is the bonus measure (one bonus bill was voted down at the last election). It would pay Oregon veterans of the late war at the rate of \$10 a month for domestic duty and \$15 a month for overseas duty, to a maximum of \$600. Certificates would be issued to be retired from proceeds of the cigarette tax. The bonus bill with cost estimated at \$55,000,000 would be voted on by the people in November, 1950.

Second the cigarette tax of two cents a package and 14 per cent on other tobacco, is estimated to produce about \$3,500,000 a year, so it would take well over a decade to pay off the bonus certificates. If the bonus bill is defeated then the proceeds would go into the general fund.

Third, and here is the item designed to grease the skids for the tax among the tobacco dealers: a "fair trade" bill. This prohibits selling cigarettes below a price fixed at a percentage above cost.

I do not think it implies any lack of appreciation of the work and service of men in the late war to oppose this bonus. This is another manifestation of our political disease of pensionitis which (Continued on editorial page)

# Michigan GOP Wins; Georgia Rejects Taxes

By the Associated Press

Georgia voters turned thumbs down yesterday on a plan to hike their taxes to pay for improved state services. Michigan republicans meanwhile laid claim to a major victory after they captured key state offices at stake in Monday's balloting.

The Georgia contest was a referendum on a proposal to increase state levies \$46,000,000 to finance expansion of educational facilities, highways, health and welfare programs. Early returns piled up an insurmountable margin of three to one against the program.

The republican national committee took especial delight in the trouncing administered to Michigan's labor-backed democratic candidates. Chairman Hugh D. Scott, Jr., issued a statement saying, "By their decision the voters of Michigan repudiated a democrat state administration which was elected only about five months ago."

Michigan's democratic governor G. Mennen Williams, conceded "surprise and disappointment" at the results. But he said he was convinced that "the people did not regard my program as an issue in the election."

The GOP candidates won the state highway commission race as well as the contest for state superintendent of public instruction. The republicans thus retained their 5-3 margin on the administrative board which serves as a semi-official "cabinet" to the governor.

# Animal Crackers



"I'm on a diet—can't have more than a million a day."

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# Hospital Fire Toll Estimate Rises to 65

## Bradley Asks Guns for Europe; U.S. Reaffirms Support of U.N.

## \$570,000 in Salem School Project Bids Accepted by Board

### Capitola, 4 Corners Schools Okehd

Low bids calling for more than \$570,000 in elementary school construction were opened and accepted by members of the Salem School board Tuesday night.

Included in the construction—part of the \$1,500,000 school project voted last year—were the new Capitola and Four Corners schools and a two-room addition to the Swegle school.

## Army Day to Signal Show Of U.S. Power

FRANKFURT, Germany, April 5—(AP)—The U. S. army will stage its biggest display of power in Germany since the war in army day parades tomorrow.

The demonstrations will underscore America's pledge to help defend western Europe against aggression.

The U. S. army here has a long way to go before it could be a powerful defensive force. But hundreds of guns, tanks and planes will show America's co-signers of the Atlantic pact that the army is determined.

The show probably will be the largest held in western Europe since allied troops whipped Germany into submission in 1945.

Similar demonstrations will be held in blockaded Berlin and at other points from Munich to Bremerhaven. Displays also will be presented in Austria and Trieste.

Other bidders on the Capitola school were Barham Brothers, Salem, \$274,406; E. E. Batterman, Salem, \$289,874; Bickford Construction Co., Portland, \$288,300; Malarkie and Moore, \$290,998; and Viesko and Post, Salem, \$288,142.

Other bids on the Four Corners project were Barham Brothers, \$274,400; Batterman, \$289,322; Bickford, \$288,700; Malarkie and Moore, \$289,022; Viesko and Post, \$287,919 and Walle and Camplan, \$286,211.

## Walkout Halts Newspapers In U.S. Capital

WASHINGTON, April 6—(Wednesday)—Washington was left without morning newspapers today by a dispute between papers and the AFL printing pressmen's local union.

One official of the international union called the walkout unauthorized. Officials of the Times-Herald and Post said it came as a complete surprise to them.

Officials of the local called a continuous session which started at 6 p.m. (EST). About four hours later the meeting recessed until morning, but local president George Walker told newsmen, "It is safe to say there won't be any papers tomorrow."

The Post and Times-Herald are the only morning papers in the city. The Times-Herald also publishes an afternoon edition. The two remaining afternoon papers are the Star and the Daily News. Negotiations between the four papers and the union have been in progress for several months.

## APPROPRIATION PASSES

WASHINGTON, April 5—(AP)—The house approved \$701,122,079 appropriation for the agriculture department today, to help farmers produce food and fiber, fight pests, find markets, make a profit and conserve their soil. The bill now goes to the senate.

## General States 'Europe Must Feel Secure'

NEW YORK, April 5—(AP)—Gen. Omar N. Bradley tonight called for a military aid program that would strengthen the "ramparts" of western Europe and stop an aggressor before he could overrun the continent.

In a major speech, the army chief of staff unveiled some of the strategic thinking of the army high command.

The idea has been widely held that it would be impossible to stop Russia from conquering all Europe if it chose. The best the United States could do, according to this argument, would be to strike back with air power and eventually lead a counter-attack to liberate the continent.

Bradley flatly rejected this thinking. He contended such strategy would breed despair among potential allies in Europe and render them impotent.

His remarks took on added significance when he explained that he had been requested by the state department "to comment publicly on the military security significance of the North Atlantic pact, and its implementation."

The defense pact, signed yesterday in Washington, will soon be up for senate ratification. The administration plans to follow it up with a request for funds to rearm Europe. There have been predictions that this program might total \$1,250,000,000 or more for the first year.

Referring to the defense treaty, Bradley said:

"It must be perfectly apparent to the people of the United States that we cannot in Europe as to friends in western Europe if our strategy in the event of war dictates that we shall first abandon them to the enemy with a promise of later liberation.

"Yet that is the only strategy that can prevail if the military balance in Europe is to be carried on the wings of our bombs and deposited in reverse this side of the ocean. It is a strategy that would produce nothing better than impotent and disillusioned allies in the event of war."

"Unless plans for common defense of the existing free world provide for the security of western Europe, these people cannot be expected to stake their lives on the common cause."

## FBI, 'Voice' Funds Raised

WASHINGTON, April 5—(AP)—Extra millions of dollars to combat subversive activities in the United States and to build up the voice of America abroad were recommended today by the house appropriations committee.

It approved a \$52,585,131 fund for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which is \$8,865,141 more than the agency got this year.

A \$34,000,000 appropriation was recommended for the state department's informational and educational programs including "Voice of America" program, up \$2,900,000 from this year's total.

These and many other items were included in a \$747,216,102 appropriation bill to finance the activities of the state, commerce and justice departments, and the federal judiciary, during the next fiscal year.

## Fire Victim Carried Out



EFFINGHAM, Ill., April 5—One of the child victims of the St. Anthony's hospital fire is being lowered from the second story nursery room. (AP Wirephoto to The Statesman).

## Expectant Mother Tells Of Flight from Hospital

(Editor's note: Mrs. June Aderman, 24, wife of Arnold Aderman, Effingham filling station worker, escaped from the maternity ward delivery room early today in the fire that destroyed St. Anthony's hospital. Here is her story of her escape, and the birth of her son later, as given to the Associated Press.)

By Mrs. June Aderman

EFFINGHAM, Ill., April 5—(AP)—I think our family was the only lucky one in the fire.

About 8:30 last night, I was taken to the hospital. I was put in the labor room with another girl.

About 11:30 a nurse took me to the delivery room.

In about 20 minutes I began to smell smoke. The nurse said she thought rubber gloves were being burned.

She went to investigate. But she came back and said nothing seemed wrong. But a minute later she went back into the hall.

It was filled with flames then. The nurse slammed some double doors. Then she and another girl who was in the hall helped me to a window. We broke through.

The three of us climbed out onto a roof. All we could see was straight walls down.

People seemed to be jumping from other parts of the building. Some of them were sprawled on the ground.

Just then my husband and two other men ran up to the building with a ladder.

By then I was in labor on the roof. But the nurse, the other girl and my husband helped me to climb down the ladder.

My husband rushed me home. We were about three blocks away.

A short time later the baby was born.

My husband has named him Charles Lee, but everybody already is calling him "Lucky."

My older boy, Tommy—he's in the second grade—likes the name "Toughy" better.

But I guess time will tell whether he will be called Charley or Lucky.

## Meteor Soars Over Utah Area

SALT LAKE CITY, April 5—(AP)—Residents of northern Utah and southeastern Idaho were startled today by a meteor described variously as a "ball of fire," "similar to a ack ack" and "a shooting star as big as a football."

Peace officers and newspaper offices were swamped with telephone calls concerning the brilliant display and with questions as many persons said they heard shortly afterwards.

Most of the reports came about 10 a.m., but additional mystery was added to the case when peace officers reported in mid-afternoon they could see "puffs of smoke resembling anti-aircraft fire over the Trenton, Utah, and Lewiston, Utah, area. These reports came from several northern Utah officers as well as from Preston, Idaho, sources.

## Joey the Canary 'Wants to Talk'

VKANCOUVER, B. C., April 5—(AP)—Joey, a little green canary, astounded his owner Mrs. M. Collier of Haney, B. C.

The first shock came when Joey announced, "Joey wants to talk."

He mastered lessons intended for a Budgerigar—a love bird—in another cage.

The Budgie hasn't said a word, but Joey has become quite a chatterer, says Mrs. Collier.

## Twelve New-Born Babies Die

EFFINGHAM, Ill., April 5—(AP)—The estimated toll of dead and missing in a horrifying midnight fire that roared through St. Anthony's hospital here rose to 65 today.

The figure came from the hospital registrar, Miss Helen Wiseman. Earlier estimates of fatalities by on-the-scene newsmen and the Red Cross ranged from 47 to 54.

The Red Cross said there were 61 identified survivors. A dozen new-born babies died in the holocaust. But one expectant mother escaped through a window—although in labor—and safely gave birth to a son.

Started in Clothes Chute

The fire burst out of a clothes chute shortly before midnight last night. It leaped fiercely through the wooden—floored halls and quickly engulfed the building.

Miss Wiseman said 20 identified and 24 unidentified bodies were removed from the debris and 21 still were missing tonight.

She said it may be several days before all bodies are removed from the smoking rubble piled high inside the blackened walls.

The hospital was destroyed. Officials estimated damage at \$500,000. Some patients, including expectant mothers, leaped from fiery windows. Bedfast patients shrieked in agony as the flames turned the place into a raging inferno.

Brave Sheets of Fire

Heroic nuns and nurses braved sheets of fire in attempts to save the sick. Several perished with their charges. One was a nurse, Miss Fern Riley, 23, \$50 died trying to rescue the babies.

The hospital's chaplain, the Rev. Charles C. Sandon, 50, died in a room next to the chapel.

In the hospital's nursery, firemen found the charred bodies of eight new-born infants, still in their flame-blackened metal cribs.

The blaze was the nation's second most tragic hospital fire.

Possibly 30 charity patients, some old age pensioners, were on the third floor. Most of them were believed to have been flushed.

Seek Fate of Kinfolk

Relatives and friends, some sobbing hysterically, went from door to door and crowded into the Red Cross headquarters at the Benwood hotel to learn the fate of kinfolk.

The Rev. John Goff, pastor of nearby St. Anthony's Roman Catholic church, anointed the dead and dying. Hours later, as 300 citizens waited at the Benwood hotel to donate blood, he was at the head of the line.

The entire hospital plant was fully insured at present values, officials said. The walls were of brick, plaster and tile. The floors were wooden.

## Bang's Disease Statute Valid

The state supreme court Tuesday held the Bang's disease statute valid but declared defective an indictment against Joe Schriber, Tillamook county charged with violation of the law.

The opinion, written by Chief Justice Hall S. Lusk, affirmed Circuit Judge R. Frank Peters, Tillamook county, who held for the defendant. Schriber was charged with refusing to permit the slaughter of five cows infected with Bang's disease.

The state, plaintiff in the action, had appealed from the circuit court decree.

## Salem Butter Prices Skid

Salem butter prices skidded once Tuesday following a similar drop in the Portland market.

New prices now place butter at 71 to 72 cents per pound retail and 66 to 67 cents wholesale for grade A. Butterfat also dropped a cent in price and the premium product is now quoted at 64 cents per pound.

## CIO Officer Tells Bridges to 'Get in Step or Get Out'

SAN FRANCISCO, April 5—(AP)—A national CIO executive told Harry Bridges' left wing longshore union today to get in step with CIO policy or leave the CIO, reliable sources said tonight.

R. J. Thomas, assistant director of organization for the CIO, spoke during a tumultuous closed session of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's convention.

"If you don't like the way the CIO works, why not get the hell out!" convention sources quoted Thomas.

Insiders at today's session said the way tempers were flaring a split could be in the making.

HOOK SNAGS DOUGLAS

SOUTHAMPTON, England, April 5—(AP)—U. S. Ambassador Lewis W. Douglas was given injections tonight to ease the pain of having a two-inch fish hook removed from his left eye. There was some fear his sight might be impaired.

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	67	38	.00
Portland	67	41	.00
San Francisco	69	46	.00
Chicago	58	38	.01
New York	57	40	.22

Willamette river 1.8 feet.

FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, Victoria, Salem): Partly cloudy this morning, becoming fair in the late afternoon and evening. High today near 70. Low tonight near 37.

SALEM PRECIPITATION (Sept. 1 to April 6)		
This Year	Last Year	Average
37.1	39.12	31.76