

The Oregon Statesman

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

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Overflow Capitol

Salem's old high school building is serving as a junior capitol. It houses offices of various branches of government from the federal government to the school district.

When the unemployment compensation commission moves into the new building in the capitol group the county expects to take over space in the building to house county offices while the new courthouse is under construction.

Thus the old building is really being used—in fact we do not know how Salem could have gotten along without it. There have been dickers from private interests to buy the land and building, and the school board would sell if it got its price.

Idaho Atomic Plant

North of Pocatello, Idaho, near the town of Arco where former Governor Bottolfson runs the newspaper, the atomic energy commission is planning to set up a plant for testing methods for industrial uses of atomic fission.

Testifying before a house committee David Lillenthal, chairman of the commission said the first project being worked out for nonmilitary use of atomic energy is in the design of a plant to drive ships. He said the prospects are bright for success.

So far only large projects are contemplated because the protective piles have to be large to confine deadly rays released in fission. Some day however it may be possible to fractionalize atomic energy—and run your car for a week on a tiny pill.

Housing for Historical Library

The California legislature is considering proposals to finance the erection of two buildings, one on the university campus at Berkeley to house the Bancroft library, the other to be erected in Los Angeles to house historical and cultural materials relating to southern California.

H. H. Bancroft was the leading historian of the west. The library which bears his name contains the largest collection of material dealing with Pacific coast history. For 50 years, between

Slip by Truman Cheers Isolationists

By Joseph Alsop WASHINGTON — This somewhat befuddled capital has just been treated to an unusually puzzling spectacle.



First the administration's move to curtail the Atlantic pact was a proud and proudly signed. And then the president's chief economic advisor, Dr. Edwin

Nourse suggested that the Atlantic pact obligation to rearm western Europe should be paid for by cutting our own defense and the European recovery programs. He added blandly that his speech had been approved by the president.

When the administration gives invaluable aid and comfort to the congressional isolationists, an explanation is in order. Superficially, of course, the explanation is very simple. The president has allowed what was done to him twice by Henry Wallace, to be done a third time.

Not long ago, Dr. Nourse returned from a tour of the country much impressed by the business groups' attitude toward taxation. He apparently concluded that it was better to torpedo our foreign policy, than to raise taxes to pay for lend-lease to Europe. He outlined these views to the president. Since the president's budget message specifically proposed raising taxes in order to meet the Atlantic pact obligation, one must conclude the president did not understand Dr. Nourse, as one must also suppose he failed to understand Wallace on the celebrated previous occasions.

At any rate, Truman authorized Nourse to express his views in a speech to a war department

1856 and 1905 Bancroft assembled papers, pamphlets, books, diaries and other materials from pioneer sources. Since then the University of California has gone on collecting material. Much material dealing with northwest history is housed in the Bancroft library.

At present, reports the San Francisco Chronicle, the library is not properly housed. Some of the material is stored under the bleachers at an athletic field. Certainly the library is worthy of proper housing both for protection of the material and for making it readily accessible to those who want to use it.

While we are on the subject we want to reiterate our call for a building for the Oregon Historical society. Its collection of northwest historical material is the largest in the country. At present the society occupies a mezzanine floor of the Portland auditorium building. It deserves a spacious, dignified building of its own. If private philanthropy will not provide one, the state of Oregon should.

Seal the Cracks in HB 452

The pinball people never rest. They are always working to get favorable legislation and to influence public officials to countenance or to license the operation of their machines. Coming up today is House Bill 452 which pretty well guts the safeguards in the act of 1943 and opens doors for licensing not only by the state but by municipal bodies of devices readily usable for illicit purposes.

The bill takes out the section of the old law which specifically denies giving recognition to illegally operated machines. In effect it invites municipalities by similar legal legerdemain to license machines which are illegal under other state law.

The house should tear this bill apart and see that it gives no crack in the door for illegal machines to operate.

Traffic Notes

Busiest airline leg is the flight route between New York and Boston; second busiest the New York-Miami run and third San Francisco-Los Angeles.

Other interesting facts are that railroads handled 44 per cent of the traffic between San Francisco and Los Angeles, buses 28 per cent and airplanes about the same as the buses.

A number of daily papers across the country have serialized the Fulton Oursler book "The Greatest Story Ever Told", a "rewrite" of the life of Jesus Christ. Nobody has ever improved on the simple narrative of St. Mark and the other authors of the gospels. In this week of Lent it is a good religious exercise to read one of these short books, particularly the latter portion dealing with the events of Holy Week, culminating in Christ's death and resurrection.

An expedition is being planned to go to Mt. Ararat in Armenia to look for the remains of Noah's ark. Moscow's Pravda says they are spies for Anglo-American imperialists. That isn't true, but we predict if the searchers find anything it will be the remains of some airplane that got off course.

orientation conference, merely requiring that he clear the speech in advance with Secretary of the Treasury John Snyder and Budget Director Frank Pace. Snyder heartily approved the Nourse argument.

Pace, seeing the contradiction of the president's budget message, protested the speech. But Pace was somehow eluded. And the state department was evidently not consulted at all, although it is reported that the president also asked Nourse to show his speech to Under Secretary of State James Webb.

Nourse's speech evoked an immediate response from Capitol Hill, as any infant of three could have foreseen it would. Nothing could have been more pleasing to the senators and representatives who are determined to cripple American foreign policy. If need be, in order to avoid a tax rise.

Their own arguments had been echoed by the president's official economic adviser. They rushed up onto the roof, cheering loudly. The president then lamely disavowed Nourse, which did nothing to counteract the disastrous damage already done in the delicate congressional situation.

General ineptitude sticks out of the whole episode like a sore thumb, as it stuck out of the all-too-similar Wallace episodes. For this episode, as for those, there is a deeper explanation also. This explanation is foreshadowed in Secretary Snyder's Army day speech in Boston, which dimly, very cautiously, but quite noticeably hinted at exactly the same points made by Dr. Nourse.

The truth is that there is a new isolationism abroad in the administration. Prior to the election, Secretaries Marshall and Forrestal and Under Secretary Lovett ruled supreme in the foreign and defense fields. Some of those around the president often

sabotaged the president's policies but the policies that were sabotaged were on the domestic front. Now these men have gained self-confidence and are venturing into the foreign and defense field, not without some encouragement from the president himself.

The first sign of this rather astonishing phenomenon was the sharp reduction in the tempo of our own rearmament, ordered by the president this fall. The original impulse for this move came from Secretary Snyder, Dr. Nourse and the then Budget Director James Webb (who is likely to form different ideas at the state department). There have been other signs also of this encroachment, such as Snyder's appointment as a permanent member of the national security council, and the odd retention in office of Snyder's ally, Secretary of Commerce Charles Sawyer, who very nearly sees eye to eye with Senator Wherry.

There are probably two sources of this new isolationism. First, the independent position and mentally conservative, deeply managers of foreign and defense policy were no doubt resented by the men around the president, if not by the president himself. The old foreign and defense policy makers were accused of "creeping conservatism," and of being under the influence of "the brass." What they did was resented, as were the men themselves.

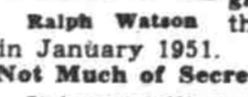
CHANGE OF TUNE



Even Local Earthquake Fails to Unseat Session of Legislature

By Ralph Watson For as long back as any present memory can recall, Wednesday was the first time that ill-dispositioned Nature ever has tried her hand at shaking the Oregon legislature out of the capitol building. And she did a fairly successful, though not lasting, job of it at that.

It is not telling much of a secret to relate that the democratic optimists of the senate have more or less high hopes of stealing the presidency of the 1951 senate away from its long time residence in the republican compound. The present senate has 10 democrats on its roster the majority of whom will be holdovers in 1951. Senator's Dunn, Holmes and Thompson whose terms expire undoubtedly would be returned by their districts should they seek reelection.



Ralph Watson

Republican speakers are now at a gallop to catch a glimpse of the potential gavel wielders at the next session in January 1951. Not Much of Secret It is not telling much of a secret to relate that the democratic optimists of the senate have more or less high hopes of stealing the presidency of the 1951 senate away from its long time residence in the republican compound.

Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers WITHOUT MAGNOLIAS, by Bucklin Moon (Doubleday; \$3) "I leave em alone, Bessie. They doan mess with me." This is Luther's explanation to his sister of his ability to get along with white folks in the little Florida town where they live.

His other sister, Alberta, has run away north, where she can treat whites, or some whites, like equals. But his mother and Eulia, whom he longs to marry, stay where they were born and brought up; and Eulia's old father Jeff sticks it out defiantly, a shotgun ready to pepper anyone who bothers him.

Better English

By D. C. Williams BETTER ENGLISH 114 rhybin 1. What is wrong with this sentence? "He is one of those men who is always polite." 2. What is the correct pronunciation of "protest" (noun and verb)? 3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Occultist, occultist, occurrence. 4. What does the word "recondite" mean? 5. What is a word beginning with ps that means "youthful"?

proven themselves to be able and sound thinking legislators. Two years from now with a season's experience behind them they will be able to click right along from the drop of the gavel. And they have a list of veterans, any of whom would handle the gavel ably: Max Landon, with four sessions behind him; Ralph Moore, with the same score; John Steelhammer with 5; Thomas with 7; Wilhelm with 2; and last on the democratic side, but in view of service and ability not by any means the least, Henry Semon with 9 consecutive sessions to his credit.

There surely should be a speaker-nesting in that list. The story book has it that Max Landon and Ralph Moore are in the front line. But there is a long, long time of waiting (and watching, and working) between now and January 1951.

Churches Plan Union Service On Good Friday

(Story also on page 1.) Good Friday services by Salem churches will be highlighted by the union services from noon to 3 p.m. in First Presbyterian church, sponsored by Salem Ministerial association. Other mid-day rites will be at St. Paul's Episcopal and St. Mark Lutheran, both from noon to 3 p.m. Also on Friday will be communion at St. Mark Lutheran at 11:30 a.m.; at First Evangelical United Brethren at 8 p.m.; vesper service at Christ Lutheran at 7:45 p.m. with special choir music; Easter music from Handel's Messiah by the Sanctuary choir of First Methodist church at 8 p.m. Catholic services Friday will be at St. Joseph's, procession and mass of the presanctified at 8 a.m., services from noon to 3 p.m., stations of the cross and sermon at 7:30 p.m.; St. Vincent de Paul, mass of the presanctified at 8 a.m. way of the cross at 2:30 p.m., Good Friday service at 7:45 p.m. Both Catholic churches will have special rites Saturday. The season will close Sunday with Easter services in all Christian churches.

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Now! Bendix At JUDSON'S See Page 5

Cloverdale Man Undergoes Surgery CLOVERDALE—Robert Schaefer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schaefer, is doing nicely at Salem General hospital, where he was taken recently for an emergency appendicectomy. Mrs. Lloyd Wallace (Ariens Bouchie) and small son Cody of Redding, Calif., arrived the first of the week at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hedges, for a visit. Mrs. Sam Drager was hostess Tuesday honoring the birthday anniversary of Mrs. A. A. Dumbeck. Places were set for Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Dumbeck, Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Dumbeck and the Drager family.

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