

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Too Much "I Spy"

There is altogether too much looseness in plastering red labels on individuals and organizations. Suspicious federal and state investigating committees, FBI agents who scoop up all the gossip (some of it false) are not fully dependable as sources of information about people and groups. The result is that one is never quite sure that he will not wake up in the morning to find his name smeared as a fellow-traveler or a red in the news.

We have one example of silly characterization in the case of Gordon Clapp, chairman of TVA. Some one in the war department put the hex on him by branding him as "unemployable" when the military government in Germany asked to have him sent over for lecture work in Germany on the subject of the role of the citizen in a democratic society and the mechanics of TVA. When the news got out Secretary of the Army Gray offered an apology, and Secretary Johnson called for an investigation.

Dr. Edward U. Condon, who was attacked himself by the house committee on un-American activities, calls for an apology from the FBI because one of its reports connected his wife with espionage suspects.

A recent issue of the New Yorker tells the story of how William W. Remington suffered because an ex-communist Elizabeth Bentley accused him of giving her government documents for transmission to Russia, and the effort he made to clear his name and regain his position in the department of commerce, which he finally did.

These incidents show a high degree of hysteria in this country, which is foolish and debilitating. While we are not sending folk to the guillotine as did the French revolutionists we have introduced an era of suspicion which parallels in some degree that of the reign of terror.

Too many people are busy with the paste brush, many who are untrained if not unreliable. Perhaps their very excesses as in the Clapp case will bring a revulsion of public opinion that will act as a brake on much of this "I spy" business.

## Water Hazards

How Artie Louise Thompson of 533 Jefferson st. saved two boys from drowning in Pringle creek was a thrilling news story. She showed both courage and skill in effecting their rescue.

The incident should focus public attention on the risks of drowning which recur when people take to the water in warm weather. Even streams that look as thin as Pringle creek may have deep holes, beyond the depth of waders.

Along with this warning should go an urging that those unable to swim learn that art. Numerous swim classes are held at the YMCA, at the two city pools under auspices of the Red Cross. Every youngster ought to learn to swim, girls as well as boys. Swimming is a fine, healthy recreation; and knowing how to swim may save one's own life or help one to save the life of another.

To sum up: be careful in and about the water; learn to swim.

## Eugene Approves One-Way Plan

Eugene likes its one-way street system. The grid plan, adopted last December to facilitate flow of traffic through the upper Willamette valley city's narrow thoroughfares, ended its six months trial period with a survey that showed 82 per cent approval of the set-up.

Of 5,000 card questionnaires placed on parked cars, 1,800 were returned. Of the 82 per cent who wished to make the one-way grid permanent, only 6.2 per cent suggested any changes and 4 per cent wanted the system extended. Of the 321 persons who voted against

the plan, 262 wanted a return to two-way streets with widened streets, more signals and elimination of parking.

Of four groups—persons in town on appointment, persons employed in town, persons shopping in town and persons operating business in town, only the businessmen favored modifying the one-way system by a slim margin of 114 in favor of a change, 111 opposed. Majorities from every group, including the businessmen, voted to make the one-way plan permanent. And most of those who answered the poll said the new system made it easier to reach destinations and easier to park.

The results of this survey in Eugene will be of considerable interest to Salem's long range planners as well as to local merchants, workers and shoppers who have expressed opposition or approval of proposed one-way plans for this city. Evidently, the one-way streets have not harmed business as much as some merchants feared it would, and it has certainly relieved some of the congestion which made driving through Eugene a nerve-wracking experience.

## Blank Record

Peter Edson, Washington correspondent for many newspapers, writes:

The truth is that the record of this year's congress thus far is not as good as the record of the 80th congress last year. As of June 1, 1948, congress had passed 167 public laws. As of June 1, of this year, congress has passed only 82 public laws.

If the present congress is to run on its record next year it will have to point to a blank.

The government crop report continues prediction of the second largest wheat crop. It puts production in the Pacific northwest at 128,265,000 which is 13,000,000 less than in 1948. This is too optimistic for the northwest. Continued dry weather is doing damage, especially in the light soil regions of the inland empire.

The Japanese have discovered remains of a man whose life they date at 5000 years ago. They call him the Jap dawn man. Compare with the Java man and the Peking man he's just a johnny-come-lately.

Battery D boys threw in the hat of their old comrade, Harry Truman into the 1952 ring at their Little Rock reunion. That would be a way of not getting anything done for another four years.

Democrats are talking about how they will divide the spoils of office if and when they elect a governor next year. They should remember the recipe for rabbit stew: first kotch the rabbit.

Senator Bridges brands as ridiculous the proposal to cut salaries of congress members in the current economy drive. He's right, for the wrong reason—it was only for 5 per cent.

One senator calls a witness an s.o.b. (long form), another shouts at ECA boss Paul Hoffman to resign. It must be the Washington heat.

The Oregonian reporting the Rose Festival parade says the legs were "shaplier and more numerous." Beauty on the octopuses.

Some of the senators criticize the Atomic Energy commission for the way it has been passing the isotopes around. Afraid some will become isotopers perhaps.

Russia is setting up a mailorder house. But it still will not furnish the lavish glory of an S-R or MW catalog. Something, though, to know the USSR is still copying the USA.

## 'Martian' Panic Surrounds A-Issue

By Joseph Alsop  
WASHINGTON, June 13 — The atomic energy investigation is at last beginning to reveal what all the shouting is about. It turns out that David E. Lilienthal is entangled in a difficult personal equation. He has made one borderline judgment. And he has not made sufficient concessions to the ostrich-minded national secrecy obsession that is now approaching the proportions of the famous panic after Orson Welles' Martian broadcast.

These may seem inadequate reasons for charging a great public servant with incredible mismanagement, as Senator Bourke Hickenlooper has charged Lilienthal. But since these are the causes for several weeks' suspension of all regular work by the entire higher staff of the most important industrial enterprise in the world, they deserve to be examined with some care.

In brief, the personal equation behind the present investigation begins with a relatively minor split between Atomic Energy Commissioner Lewis Strauss and his four colleagues, headed by Lilienthal. On almost all the issues now causing so much turmoil, Strauss has regularly voted with the rest of the commission. There has never been a divided vote on any matter of operations, management or program, including the controversial gas-pipeline to the Oak Ridge plant.

Equally, Commissioner Strauss has voted with his colleagues on major security issues, like the clearances of Doctor Condon and

Graham, and the procedure for granting the commission's research fellowships. (These research fellows, by the way, are simply hired to produce useful ideas, as hens are fed for the eggs they lay. Worrying about their political affiliations is precisely like not feeding good egglayers because they have radical views on the henhouse pecking order. But that is beside the point.)

Commissioner Strauss has often disagreed with his colleagues, however, about what may be called foreign relations. The commission is constantly having to decide which radio-isotopes may be sent abroad, where they may be sent, how far the war-born Anglo-Canadian-American atomic energy partnership is to go, and so forth. All these decisions have been controversial. The most controversial are actually those which have not yet been discussed, such as the decision whether atomic weapons ought to be made in Britain, only a channel's breadth from Europe.

On all these issues, the other commissioners have tended toward a broad interpretation of the statute, while Commissioner Strauss has insisted on a strict interpretation. Possibly Lilienthal and his colleagues have made borderline judgments in this area. At any rate, through the commission's link with the joint congressional atomic energy committee, these dissents of Strauss were bruited about.

In the poisonous little world of Washington, the Strauss dissents were then exaggerated into a full-scale war within the commission. Gossip began to give Strauss the role of the atomic energy commission's only defender of "the American way," that Lilienthal's power-lobby enemies talk so much about.

Meanwhile, on the joint congressional committee, Senator

Hickenlooper had invested more time learning about atomic energy than anyone else. He became the expert. Having become the expert, he inevitably became a backseat driver. And when his advice from the back seat was not always taken, he flew into the kind of fit of indignation that all frontseat drivers know only too well. Hence the present investigation.

This is all trivial enough. But what really makes the proceedings in the Senate chamber look foolish, is one simple fact. In preparing the American rearmament program, the Joint Chiefs of Staff formally adopted 1952 as their planning date, by which this country would have to be prepared for the Soviet Union's building an atomic bomb. And this was done by the Joint Chiefs on the further assumption that atomic security would be maintained in America.

There are many experts who regard the Joint Chiefs' planning date as far too pessimistic. But even if the year to worry about is 1957, as the British authorities think, there is plainly no safety whatever in mere secrecy, however hysterically enforced. Plainly, the only safety now lies in national strength and wise national policy.

That bleak truth puts those who yell loudest about "secrecy" and the danger from "subversives" in a pretty false position. For these same men are generally the advocates of feeble and foolish foreign and defense policies. And in exchange for a binding assurance of American feebleness and folly, the Politburo would undoubtedly give every secret in all the atomic energy commission's triple-locked and guarded files.

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## Army Boasts Country-Club Atmosphere

By Henry McLemore

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., June 13—There was a time when I would gladly have sworn that I would never go back in the army until the Russians had not only occupied my living room, but were coming upstairs to take possession of the second floor.

It seemed to me, when I was handed my discharge papers at Camp Blanding, Florida, that I would almost be willing to change my name to Benedict Arnold McLemore to keep from ever again wearing that Uncle Sam outfit.

When I was in the army it was real rough. The kindest non-com or officer I met could have doubled for a gorilla with a toothache. I was fussed at from the moment I got in until the moment I got out.

No one ever laid a kindly hand on my patriotic forehead, no one ever so much as said to me, "Henry, you're a peach of a little soldier."

Even when I was braver than Sergeant York, there was always some persimmon-faced cuss to yell at me and say, "Soldier, get braver." What I am trying to tell you is that when I was in the army, I had as uncomfortable a time as a soap bubble in a meat chopper.

But the army, she has changed. I thought the deep violet pools which serve as my eyes would pop right out of my handsome face when I read in the New York newspapers a few days ago what they are now doing for soldiers. Cross my heart and hope to die, if they aren't bringing soldiers into New York from nearby camps and giving them a week's furlough with extra pay. The four soldiers I read about were given a send-off by a three-star general, driven into New York in a star car, and told to have one week of solid fun.

"Cut loose," they were told, "and don't dare show up at your camp until you have seen the sights of the city."

That's the kind of army I want to join. If that's the way they're treating soldiers now, I'll stich up my own little bugle, and pay half my wages. Man, I remember when I used to have to drop to my knees like Al Jolson having a fit and beg and plead for half an hour in order to get a fifteen-minute furlough. How well do I remember those days when I'd go into the orderly room at Camp Wheeler and ask for a pass to get into Macon, Georgia.

The sergeant, lieutenant or captain always asked me the same question, "Why do you want to go into Macon?"

"Just to see some bright lights, sir," I always answered, standing at what I considered attention, but which I've learned is generally considered by West Pointers to be "at ease." They nearly always told me something like this:

"You go right over to the mess hall, soldier, and back in the kitchen you'll see some of the brightest lights you ever saw in your life. If it's bright lights you want, the mess sergeant will show you all you'll ever want to see."

As for ever meeting a general, I'd been in the army two years before I ever knew such a thing existed. I'm telling you the truth, I'd been in the army a full year before I knew there was any rank higher than corporal. I used to stretch out in my bunk and dream of the day when I would be able to call a corporal by his first name. Now, generals send soldiers off with a pat on the back, a friendly smile, and a cheerful admonition to paint the town red. The only thing a general ever gave me was a court-martial and a warning that if I didn't straighten up, I'd get a ten-year straight in Leavenworth.

If I didn't look so silly in an overseas cap, I would go right now to the nearest recruiting office and join what I'm quite sure is becoming the very finest country club in America. Certainly, it's the only country club that pays you to join.

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## Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I saw her go in the house."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "faucet"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Wierd, wield, shield, field.
4. What does the word "stipulation" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with ev that means "tending to escape cleverly"?

## ANSWERS

1. Say, "I saw her go into the house."
2. Pronounce the s as in basal, not as in of. 3. Weird.
4. An agreement or condition. "He consented with the stipulation that we assist him." 5. Evasive.

Animal hoofs, whether one-toed as in the horse, two-toed as in cows, pigs and sheep, or four-toed as in the hippopotamus, are modifications of a five-toed arrangement.

## "CROSS ROADS OF THE EAST"



## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

becomes self-perpetuating. The law of inertia operates, and a bureau once started keeps on rolling, gathering size (and power) as it rolls. Congress itself seems to become impotent in dealing with a vast bureaucracy. I have been surprised at this with regard to the Hoover recommendations: the failure of publicists in the northwest, editors and others, to study the commission's reports on agriculture and interior departments, and to comment on them. Here we are debating about a CVA when a very competent task force making a special study of reorganization of administration has made very sensible recommendations. I have not seen these recommendations discussed by any northwest editors, yet they are vital to this region and to a constructive solution of its problems. The Portland Journal did comment on the article by ex-Governor Leslie Miller of Wyoming, chairman of the task force on natural resources, in the Saturday Evening Post. This is as close as any editorial comment has come to the report itself, which I have seen.

I have given some space to discussing the Hoover reports with particular reference to those dealing with our northwest problems, but not enough, I admit. Meantime I wish other editors would get into the swim and discuss these reports of the Hoover commission.

This column has given some attention to the Hoover reports; and I intend to prepare additional columns dealing particularly with recommendations of special concern to our region. Meantime I hope other editors will jump in and tell the people what these recommendations are—and what they think of them.

## Hollywood On Parade

By Gene Handaker

HOLLYWOOD — Gracie Allen's safety campaign is progressing nicely. It uses her as a horrible example of what can happen if you're not careful. Gracie says, "My life has been one accident after another."

When she was 18 months old she tipped a pan of boiling water over the stove and scalded her right arm. At San Francisco doctors but one wanted to amputate, Gracie says. That one came to her house twice a day the first year and once a day the second year to give her treatments. The arm is so scarred that to this day she can't wear short sleeves.

Gracie lived fairly safely until she was seven. Then she leaned against a table, collapsed its projecting leaf, and sent the table lamp crashing. Glass pierced her right eyeball and required five stitches in the lid.

Some years later she got off a bus, ran heedlessly in front of it, and was thrown 12 feet by an auto. "That did something to my spine," Gracie reports. "I get dreadful headaches." Eight years ago she learned against a night club wall while George Burns, her husband and radio partner, was at the check room. The wall proved to be a concealed door. It gave way and let Gracie fall on the back of

her head against concrete. Five more stitches.

Gracie's "Don't Be a Gracie" clubs seek to prevent just such mishaps. There are about 350 now, the largest, with around 500 members, in Springfield, Mo. Other chapters are in St. Petersburg, Fla.; Athens, Ga.; Idabel, Okla.; and Titusville, Pa. Members, mostly mothers, meet once a month and talk safety. To join, you merely check a list of precautions you have taken in your home: There are no electric cords to trip over, insecure throw rugs on polished floors, unprotected electric lights in the shower, etc.

George and Gracie have been plugging the campaign on the air about three months. It was suggested to the mby Robert Benton Kidwell, Kansas City, Mo., publisher of high-school annuals, Safety is his hobby. It became so after his small son slipped on a throw rug and got cut on the chin and his infant daughter tripped over skates and fell downstairs. Kidwell issues a book, "Invitation to Live," which illustrates safety rules with cartoons.

In the Burns & Allen home, the campaign has had its effect. Sharp corners have been removed from shelves. Wall racks now hold kitchen knives. But George came downstairs the other day, slipped on a loose rug, and nearly fell.

Written by Dr. Herman N. Bunsdensen, M.D.

## Your Health

Of all nail disorders, the one which most frequently sends people to a doctor for relief is a painful swelling around the base of the nail known as paronychia.

This infection, which may be caused by a variety of germs, as well as by a certain yeast or mold, may, in time, affect the nail-bed and the nail itself. The disorder usually starts with slight tenderness and redness around the base of the nail. Gradually, the tissues become swollen and, after a time, pus may be pressed from under the fold at the base of the nail. The condition may be limited to one nail at a time, but others

may gradually become involved. Cases in which all the fingers are affected seem to occur rarely.

People whose hands are constantly exposed to water or sugars are most frequently affected. It would appear that exposure to fluids leads to softening and injury of the tissues, thus allowing germs to get into the skin where they can produce infection. The presence of sugar serves as a substance on which the germs can easily grow. It is not difficult to make a diagnosis of paronychia.

In treating this disorder, exposure to water or to any other irritating substance must be avoided. The wearing of rubber gloves to protect the skin does not seem satisfactory.

Active treatment consists of the use of some disinfectant and the employment of X-ray. The disinfectant is put on a small wooden stick which is pushed down, as far as possible, under the fold at the base of the nail. Then, an antiseptic ointment is applied and the treatment is repeated three or four times a day. The disinfectants used include a one or two per cent gentian violet solution.

The X-ray treatments, which speed up the cure and help to prevent recurrences, are given once a week. These are started after improvement has begun and not at the beginning of the treatment.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
S. N.: What is diverticulitis of the intestine?

Answer: Diverticulitis of the intestine means that little pouches have formed in the intestine. These pouches often become inflamed. The condition is then called diverticulitis.

## Solons Back Proportional Electoral Vote

WASHINGTON, June 13—(AP)—A sweeping change in the electoral system, computations would be carried out to three decimal places — thousandths of one electoral vote.

Each presidential candidate would be credited with a share of the electoral vote in each state proportional to the popular vote he received. At present, the man who carries a state gets all its electoral votes, even if his margin is a bare handful of popular ballots. Rare exceptions to this rule are the cases where individual electors exercise their right to vote for somebody other than the top man.

In splitting up the total vote within a state under the proposed system, computations would be carried out to three decimal places — thousandths of one electoral vote.

The proposed amendment, sponsored by Senator Lodge (R-Mass.), cleared the committee 6 to 2. Senators Ferguson (R-Mich.) and Donnell (R-Mo.) voted against it.

The house judiciary committee has approved a similar proposal. It is still a long way from being part of the basic law of the land, however. To become effective, it would have to be approved by both houses of congress and ratified by three-fourths of the states.

First use of gunpowder in artillery was to batter fortifications and it was not used in the field until late in the 15th century.

## Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

WITH A FEATHER IN MY NOSE, by Billie Burke, with Cameron Shipp (Appleton-Century-Crofts, \$3.)

Billie Burke recalls her first conspicuous success in "The School Girl" in 1903 when, she writes, she was 18.

That was in London, where this American-born red-headed daughter of a circus clown came to the attention of Charles Frohman and Sir Charles Hawtrey. New York gave her her best chance, for she opened here under Frohman in "My Wife," with John Drew in the lead. The pair of them had to be on their mettle, for competition that season included William Gillette, Maxine Elliot, E. H. Sothern, Otis Skinner, Minnie Maddern Fiske, Maude Adam and Pauline Frelick. There were also two newcomers: Mary Pickford, and Florenz Ziegfeld, Jr., with his "Follies."

Miss Burke met Flo Ziegfeld seven years later, in the Hotel Astor ballroom. She loved him, but Frohman didn't, and their courtship was so secretive that on occasion, like any ordinary boy and girl, they had dates at Grant's Tomb. It was Frohman or Flo, and she picked Flo. Even with Billie Burke waiting for him, he sometimes got home pretty late at night; her rivals, she says, were the entire fabulous "Follies" chorus, and she says it is not true that the wife is always the last to hear, "not if she knows at least two other women." But she denies specifically that he was a girl chaser.

Those were the crazy, and the tax-free, days. Frohman paid Maude Adams \$20,000 a week on tour. Thanks to Frohman, James Barrie earned \$175,000 a year . . . and the two of them would sit at a Paris sidewalk cafe to watch the legs of ladies descending from carriages, the reason given, if reason be needed, being that they tried thus to tell blondes from brunettes. Flo would hire a private car for a trip to California, then arrive at the station with his belongings wrapped in a newspaper. He once gave his wife a \$38,000 set of china, and she made him take it back.

He died in 1932, after losing a million in the crash. Miss Burke, last on the New York stage in 1944, now does what she calls silly little parts in the movies. "I always have fun on the stage," she says.

## GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



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