

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher

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Tucker's Sensational Fiasco

Fountainhead of American folklore is the success story. Especially the free-enterprise success story. We relish the Cinderella theme, the local - boy - makes - good headlines; we want our presidents to have been born in a log cabin and we distrust a millionaire who neglected to begin his career delivering newspapers.

Inherent in the "typical" American character is the cherished dream of bigger and better things to come, and every account of someone else who hits the jackpot is a prod and an encouragement. And, because we like to think it can't happen here, we seldom pay much attention to the flop, the broken derelict who didn't know the name of the mystery tune, the office boy who stayed an office boy, the little guy who bet his wad — and lost.

Seldom, that is, unless it is a super-colossal flop, a botchery of such magnitude and boldness that it could not possibly happen here. An inspiring fiasco, you see. A fiasco like Preston Tucker's monumental \$28,000,000 bankruptcy.

Tucker, would-be manufacturer of a postwar rear-engined super-car, last week was indicted on federal charges of mail fraud, violating regulations of the securities and exchange commission and conspiracy. His is the traditional free enterprise success story gone sour. Clarence R. Dore tells it in an exclusive to the San Francisco Chronicle.

The beginning fits the pattern: Preston Tucker at 13 was an office boy in the Cadillac plant. After many, varied and short-term jobs ranging from policeman to general manager of his mother's machine and tool company he told his ideas about a revolutionary new car to a free lance writer in 1945.

The article brought thousands of inquiries and Tucker acquired a \$200,000,000 plant from the War Assets Administration by writing checks of doubtful value. Later he raised money by selling franchises to dealers, selling stock the SEC warned was suspect, and selling car accessories to dealers and buyers on the promise that the Tucker Torpedo to fit them would come along later.

The only thing the Tucker assembly line ever produced were bulletins. Only 25 Tucker cars are known to have been made — all by hand. And they didn't work very well either, reports say.

Something, you see, went wrong in this story. Success is supposed to be made up of the homely virtues plus luck and maybe a fairy godmother. Tucker doesn't know that; he blames the government and the established auto manufacturers for the egg he laid. But some people might think his failure was due to lack of judgment and even dishonesty. And that, thank goodness, leaves our favorite success stories intact. This fiasco is so big and so obvious that it ought to not to discourage office boys over the country.

That State Insurance Award

Secretary of State Earl T. Newberry defends the action of the board of control (it was taken unanimously we are told) in rejecting the low bid for casualty insurance on state-owned automobiles. His reason is that the company getting the award agrees to put three safety engineers at work in an effort to reduce the accident toll. This will cost the company from \$10,000 to \$15,000. Newberry argues that if better education reduces the number of accidents the cost to the state in car repair will be less.

The answer to that argument is simply this:

Indo-Chinese Counter-Revolt Sought

By Stewart Alsop

DAI, Indo-China, June 17—On the cool verandas of a rather scrubby little villa overlooking pine-clad mountains that would be more at home in Maine than in the tropics of Indo-China, there sits one of the hopes of the Western world. He is a thick-set, plump, portly man in his late thirties, with straight, jet black hair glistening with oil, and a bland face, totally expressionless.

He speaks faultless Parisian French, but he speaks seldom.

He becomes animated only when he is pointing to some spot in the surrounding mountains where he killed a tiger or trapped an elephant or bested a fierce gaur in single combat.

Besides the extermination of wild beasts, his other recorded enthusiasm is the corps de ballet of Hsing Kong's taxi dance halls. Such is his imperial majesty, Bao Dai, last descendant of the ancient line that has ruled the richest part of Indo-China for many centuries, and the newly installed emperor of Viet Nam, as his domain is now called.

Bao Dai is the hope of the West because he, in his plump person, offers about the last hope that Indo-China will be ruled by the richest part of Indo-China for many centuries, and the newly installed emperor of Viet Nam, as his domain is now called.

Bao Dai's task is simply to attract away from Ho Chi-minh the vast majority of Indo-Chinese who are now following the communist chief.

It must be added that under his somewhat uninspiring surface, the Emperor of Viet Nam conceals certain assets for this exacting assignment.

Those who know him well say that he is fundamentally a man of intelligence and character. Certainly the visitor observes a certain impressive force about him. Undoubtedly also, he has great personal courage. Ho Chi-minh has condemned him to death, and Ho Chi-minh's guerrillas are everywhere. Then too, he has the monarchy, religion, and a preponderance of military force all working on his side.

Most Indo-Chinese feel a lingering respect for Bao Dai's old line although the French long used them as puppets. Bao Dai is himself high priest of Indo-China's Buddhism. His wife is a Catholic, with some appeal to the numerous Indo-Chinese Catholics who now support Ho Chi-minh. And he has the strong allegiance of a peculiar religious sect, confusingly called the Cao Dai. The Cao Dai professes to combine the best in all the world's religious teaching and, more important, boasts a following of a million and an efficient private army of 15,000 men. Finally, Bao Dai also has on his side the French army, without which he and his supporters would be chivvied out of existence overnight.

The trouble is that the French Army cannot win for Bao Dai. To understand why this is so, you must know something of his adversaries. Ho Chi-minh is a Comintern agent whom the French rate as an authentic political genius. They also rate his chief lieutenant, General Vo Nguyen Gap, as a military commander of great ability. Their whole appeal has been to Indo-Chinese nationalism. And by playing down communism and playing up nationalism, they

The state called for tenders on insurance, not on safety education. Nothing was mentioned in the call for bids about furnishing safety engineers to educate dumb state employees in how to drive. To admit that as a determining factor breaks down the integrity of the state's bidding system.

If the state is going to permit high bidders to get state business by making supplemental offers not related to the specifications, bidding becomes a guessing contest, and after the bids are opened a contest in seamanship.

We do not belabor Secretary Newberry individually, but condemn the action of the board as a whole in tossing away nearly \$8,000 of state money for the dubious value of an educational campaign thrown in by an insurance company to "sweeten" its bid.

A brown-eyed blonde married a blue-eyed man, not alone for love, but also to settle the question of dominance in heredity. Will their children be brown-eyed or blue-eyed. Both are medical students at the University of Washington. Without referring the question to Mr. Lysenko who discounts the importance of heredity we doubt if this alliance will settle the question. They may have one or more children of each eye color. Even if all were the same the single experience would not establish a law of heredity. It might be merely the dominance of genes in the individual case. The kiddies really to be pitied are those who are used to test theories in psychology.

Hard pressed to make the civic auditorium in Portland pay the city council is trying to collect \$8000 a year in rental from the Oregon Historical society for the quarters it occupies in the building. The charge probably is justified but the society unfortunately doesn't have the money to pay the rent. It doesn't receive nearly the amount of state and private support which it deserves. Oregon is proud of its history — and starves the society which has done a magnificent job in preserving authentic history of the Oregon country.

One reporter writing from China says the Chinese communists are genuine reds, closely aligned with Moscow. Another writes that Mao Tse-tung, the red chieftain, is bitterly hostile to Russia because it played along with Chiang Kai-shek. Now what is the poor newspaper reader to believe? The only thing to do is to await developments and see what the Chinese communists do. That will tell the story. One thing is certain, they do not love the USA.

Amid singing and dancing to the tunes of a popular orchestra the voters of Tirana, capital of Albania, went to the polls. Undoubtedly most all of them voted communist, and they knew enough of what was good for them to sing when they voted.

Pacific college at Newberg, well known as an educational institution of the Friends, is changing its name to George Fox college. This will end confusion with Pacific university of Forest Grove and honor the name of the founder of the society of Friends.

Why isn't the oath to support the constitution and laws of the United States enough of a pledge of any public servant? That's a positive commitment. Denying on oath membership in any particular organization is negative. Let's keep on the positive side.

have raised the country against the French and have nearly pushed the French into the sea.

They have done this although the French have been far better armed, have planned their military operations well, and have fought with superb courage and discipline in this war in which death always strikes suddenly from ambush. After three years' experience here, all the thoughtful French are therefore convinced that a revolutionary nationalist movement, armed with automatic weapons, and supported by most of the population, cannot be defeated by a foreign force. The only way is to fight fire with fire.

That is why the French have conferred on Bao Dai more independence than Ho Chi-minh ever asked for, and have set him up, so to speak, as Ho's rival in the nationalist movement business. If Ho is to be defeated, it is now up to the emperor to do so.

To be realistic, Bao Dai can only win if his regime attracts away from Ho many of the people who now follow the communists from purely nationalist motives. This will be quite possible if the people of Indo-China, who hate and suspect the French with remarkable unanimity, can now be convinced that Bao Dai is the real thing, and not just another French puppet. To help to convince the Indo-Chinese people of this vital fact is thus the overriding American interest in Indo-China.

This in turn suggests important deductions as to future American policy in Asia. But while must be deferred to another re these deductions for the future part, one thing may be said here about the past. In the existing circumstances, the indications of American sympathy for Ho Chi-minh in the immediate post-war period are now a little bitter to remember.

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BEAR MARKET?



The Why of The Hospital Drive

(Editor's Note—The Salem Hospital Development Program calls for the raising of \$1,100,000 in the Salem area. The campaign is now in progress and will be brought to the general public within a few weeks.)

(To inform the public of the local needs for hospital facilities, The Statesman will give space for a daily "Question and Answer.")

(If you have questions you want answered, write to the hospital program headquarters, 333 N. High st. or phone 2-3851. If you have experienced difficulty in getting hospital accommodations tell the program office of your experience.) Here's today's question:

QUESTION: Dr. M. K. Crothers, what is your observation on the crowded conditions of our hospitals?

ANSWER: One very bad feature of this is that the sickest patients, being the most recent admissions, have to take the accommodations that are left and these are all too frequently in the hallway. Many a patient with pneumonia or ruptured appendix has been put to bed in the hallway in both our hospitals. The situation really is a skeleton in our community closet.

A seven-month old baby had a temperature of 107, and the fretful cry and grunting respiration of a child desperately ill with pneumonia. A home-made trailer housed the family of parents and three children. There has been measles in the family and a rash disappearing on the baby might have been measles. Hospital administrators are properly reluctant to get contagious disease cases into a general hospital, but hospitalization was imperative for this baby.

Neither hospital had any beds except in the hallway, but it was apparent the child would die without oxygen, penicillin, and good nursing. When the supervisor saw the condition of the infant, she arranged to put the child in a room, but to do so had to move another baby with non-epidemic meningitis into a ward. I was recounting this incident to another doctor who told me that a few weeks before a child with an epidemic meningitis had had to be transferred to the Portland Isolation hospital. Every physician in town has had numerous similar experiences. This state of affairs must weigh heavily on the conscience of each one of us, for literally, the lives of our children are being put in jeopardy by it.

Mrs. Fannie Beveridge, late resident of 1435 Center st., died Thursday at a local hospital following an extended illness. She was the widow of Joseph W. Beveridge who was Multnomah county clerk for many years.

Mrs. Beveridge was born Nov. 26, 1871, at Freemont, Nebr., and moved to Portland with her family when a child. She was married there Nov. 26, 1890. About 20 years ago they came to Salem to make their home with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Law.

Surviving besides the daughter are a sister, Mrs. Laura Harlow of Gresham; two grandsons, Robert Beveridge Law of Eugene and Joseph Edward Law, Jr. of Salem; and four great-grandchildren.

Private services will be Saturday, June 18 at 4 p.m. at the chapel of St. Paul's Episcopal church with the Rev. George H. Swift officiating. Direction is by the Clough-Barrick chapel and friends are requested to omit flowers.

When this happens, said the auditor, a federal investigation is launched to determine if there has been an attempt to avoid the gift tax.

Transfer of property in an attempt to avoid gift and inheritance taxes may avoid trouble and considerable expenses later, Irving Brown, auditor for the state treasurer's office, said Friday.

Brown, in charge of the inheritance and gift tax division, spoke at the noon luncheon of the Salem Board of Realtors in the Senator hotel.

Frequently, said Brown, the person to whom property has been wrongfully deeded becomes involved in the fraud. Many deeds have been filed in this county which do not carry necessary revenue stamps.

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Appointment by members of the furniture and bedding advisory council, created by an act of the 1949 legislature, was announced by Governor Douglas McKay Friday.

They are: J. C. King, representing upholstered furniture manufacturing industry; Ben Rosenfeld, Portland, bedding; Elmer Caley, retail furniture; W. L. Erikson, sterilization and fumigation; Merton T. Owre, representing the public having no interest, all of Portland.

Clarence H. Wick, Portland, was appointed a member of the state board of architect examiners for a five year term. He succeeds Graham B. Smith, Eugene.

Reappointments included Carl Y. Tengwald, Medford, as a member of the State real estate board; and Mrs. Meredith Bailey, Sisters, as a member of the board of trustees for the Oregon State library. She will serve a five year term.

Englewood School Project to Start

A \$176,454 building permit for alterations and construction at Englewood school was issued Friday at the city hall.

Six classrooms, a covered play area, an oil heating plant, kitchen and cafeteria are included in expansion of the school, located at 1132 N. 19th st. Viesko and Post, Salem contractors, are the builders.

Another building permit issued Friday went to L. D. McAllister a roeroof a dwelling at 680 Lefelle st. at a cost of \$200.

PUC Sees Plea For City Bus Rate Increase

A request for increased fares for City Transit lines' bus service in Salem and vicinity was examined at a public hearing conducted by the state public utilities commission Friday in city hall.

Carl Wendt of Portland, general manager of the company, presented revenue and expense exhibits in an attempt to show the lines needed the increased fares to continue operating.

PUC examiners were A. F. Harvey, J. E. Singleton and A. W. Foglesong. The hearing was completed Friday and the commission has the matter under advisement and an order will be issued later, it was reported.

The proposed schedule calls for a straight 10-cent fare for adults in the city or within any suburban zone. The current rate is three fares for 25 cents. The company also seeks a rate of 20 cents per ride or two for 35 cents in inter-zone travel. This would be boosted from the current rate of 15 cents per ride.

Child and student-book fares would be unchanged.

Portland State Building Site Selection Due

No time will be lost after June 28 in selecting a site for the proposed \$2,500,000 state office building in Portland, members of the state board of control indicated here Friday.

On June 28 officers of the Portland planning commission will appear before the state board of control here and are expected to argue for a west side location for the building. Eight commercial club officials appeared before the board a few weeks ago and urged selection of a site in that section of the city. Approximately 25 sites have been submitted to the board.

Roy E. Mills, secretary, said, but not all of these are being considered. Construction of this structure was authorized by a previous legislature. The building would house a large number of branch state offices now in Portland along with other state agencies.

37 Apply for Police, Fire Bureau Posts

A total of 37 aspirants for jobs as Salem policemen and firemen filed applications for a civil service examination prior to Friday's deadline, according to City Recorder Alfred Mundt.

Would-be firemen filed 25 of the applications, and a dozen men returned blanks that may lead to a position on the police force. Employees in the recorder's office reported an exceptionally busy afternoon Friday with a majority of the applications brought in shortly before the 5 p.m. deadline.

The examinations will be June 23 and 24 and will determine new eligibility lists from which future employees will be selected for the two departments. The tentative city budget calls for employment of 10 new policemen and 20 new firemen.

Mt. Angel Pair To Enter Plea

Clifton Thomas, Jr. and Shirley Ann Denn, both of Los Angeles, appeared in Marion county district court Friday and were continued for plea today on a charge of passing a false check at a Mt. Angel market.

The pair were arrested Thursday by a Marion county deputy sheriff on a charge of obtaining property by false pretenses. They are being held in the county jail in lieu of \$1000 bail.

McKay Appoints New Furniture, Bedding Council

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UAL Sets Record Performance Week

Salem's United Air Lines station crew was informed Friday that UAL chalked up its best weekly performance record this month. Station Manager H. F. Swireney said planes of the entire UAL system made 87 per cent of all original flights on time and arrived at destinations on time 82 per cent of the time, for the week ending June 14.

300 Children In Sheridan's Junior Parade

SHERIDAN, June 17.—(Special)—The annual three-day Phil Sheridan days celebration started today with the junior parade featuring more than 300 youngsters.

A colorful array of floats, covered wagons, kiddies on tricycles and horses passed through the city center in a mile-long procession. Music was furnished by bands of Sheridan and Willamina high schools. Frank Stuck was parade chairman.

Following the parade, a program was presented at the city park featuring the Community chorus and a local talent show.

Pioneer mother for this year's celebration, Mrs. Lulu Chapin of Bellevue, and Junior Queen Patricia Ryan were presented to a large crowd on hand for the program.

The evening's festivities included the Pioneer Mother's banquet at the American Legion hall. Richard L. Neuberger, Portland author and state senator was featured speaker, and C. Wayne Flynn was chairman. The annual Phil Sheridan ball followed the grand march.

Today's program will be highlighted by the Phil Sheridan parade which starts at the depot at 10 a.m. The ninth Sheridan rodeo, to include some of the nation's top riders and stock, will get underway at the rodeo arena at 2 p.m. A dance at Legion hall will end Saturday's celebration.

Sunday, the final day for the event will close with a rodeo starting at 2 p.m.

Modern Lights, Fixtures Due in Miller's Store

Remodeling of the second floor of Miller's department store will feature modern lighting and new hardwood fixtures, John W. Adlon, manager, announced Friday.

Contracts were let recently for this work which is the newest phase in the store's three-year remodeling program. Earlier this year the third-floor furniture department was revamped, while a public rest room and lounge on the second floor is still in progress.

Plans for next year include major changes to the first floor and windows with improvement of the buildings' exterior under consideration.

Last year's improvements included a new beauty salon and elevator, and a remodeled basement. Changes to date have cost more than \$200,000 and the total may approach half-a-million dollars, according to store officials.

Labor Camp Immunization Clinic Set for

An immunization clinic for children at the farm labor camp near the Salem airport will be held next Thursday, June 23, by the Marion county department of health.

Public Health Nurse Evelyn Schrader will immunize the youngsters for whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus. The project will include children ranging from infants to those about eight years old.

A film on tuberculosis was shown at the camp Thursday night to about 85 adults. Francis Roerson, health educator at the department, Roerson also spoke on vaccination and the importance of immunization.

Publishers Meet at Coast

GEARHART, Ore., June 17.—(AP)—Oregon newspaper publishers discussed newspaper problems here today in a series of panel meetings.

More than 150 publishers, editors and circulation men were on hand for the 62nd annual convention of the publishers' association.

Robert W. Reed, assistant managing editor of the Kansas City Star, led a panel discussion of news analysis. On the panel were Wen dell Webb, Oregon Statesman; Fred L. Andrus, Astorian Budget; and Ralph Stuller, Coquille Valley Sentinel.

The convention will be highlighted by an address tomorrow night by Frank J. Starzel, general manager of the Associated Press.

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