

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sweeps Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Annexation Mutually Advantageous

There is little if any question regarding the outcome of tomorrow's election on the annexation of West Salem—although certainly a large turnout of Salem voters is needed to make the issue certain.

But apparently there still is a question in some quarters as to whether a 400-acre area south of Salem along 12th street should come into the city. Not that the city itself will object—a favorable vote on that issue, too, is fully expected insofar as Salem is concerned. It is the vote within the area itself which some persons still feel is in doubt. It shouldn't be.

The area to the south encompasses some extremely desirable home sites. It is not remote from Salem—in fact, its extreme limits are not far from downtown Salem as the city limits already extend to the north. Originally, the annexation was proposed by real estate operators. But in this election many residents or potential residents also are actively backing the plan.

Certainly if the area is going to grow and become part of the city eventually anyway, there should be some control. And it already is growing fast. It has need of zoning, of new building inspection, of public utilities such as water, of police and fire protection, and of better insurance rates and loan privileges. It already has one of the finest residential sections of Salem's fringe areas. If annexed to Salem, the residents would pay city taxes—but since it already is in school district 24 the net increase in taxation would be only a small percentage of what already is being paid. And the benefits to be secured are immeasurable.

Some opposition has stemmed from an unwillingness to come under city law regarding pinball machines and punchboards. That objection certainly is not valid. A little objection also has come from a very few property owners whose land, at least immediately, would not lend itself to residential development, being used now primarily for small dairy farms. But these are greatly in the minority, and it should be recognized that there is no desire to disturb existing businesses anyway. Certainly city annexation would increase the value of any and all land.

A third but minor objection comes from a few persons who feel their personal privileges might be invaded by city control. Barring possible maintenance of neighborhood nuisances, which should be controlled anyway, there seems no validity to the argument on this point, either.

Against these few items which have been raised in opposition, there are innumerable arguments in favor of annexation—all well documented in letters recently mailed to all residents of the area by a group of others who see in the plan a great advantage to all concerned, including an actual financial saving.

The south-of-Salem area should be allowed to pay its way and obtain the benefits accruing. Salem itself should be allowed to help guide a territory which cannot but be a part of it very shortly regardless of the current vote. The advantages are mutual, and a "yes" vote should be secured.

So far as taking in West Salem is concerned, the opposition has dwindled to nothing. It is a "must" for orderly development of the valley. The additional ballot issue of an eighth councilman is merely a necessary companion measure,

Farm Bill Bodes Ill for Welfare State

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop
WASHINGTON, Oct. 12—If it is to succeed at all, President Truman's welfare state will first of all demand

exceedingly sober, clear-headed and practical political leadership. Without some self-discipline, the government cannot safely venture into almost every sphere of the national life. In this absolutely fundamental respect, the story of the agriculture bill is far from reassuring.

This enormous measure has not attracted very impassioned attention, except among the farmers themselves. Yet it will cost the nation a number of hundreds of millions or even billions of dollars that even its sponsors have not tried to estimate. It is exactly the kind of measure by which an increasingly planned national economy will stand or fall and to all intents, it has "grown" just as haphazardly as Topay.

There was nothing haphazard, to be sure, about the original bill proposed by Secretary of Agriculture Brannan. Despite the hysterical attacks upon it, there was really a great deal to be said for the Brannan bill. It accepted the inevitability of subsidizing American agriculture, which has now become habitual with both political parties. At the same time, it provided for the consumers consuming the surpluses, which is surely preferable to burning them or stuffing them away in cellars. And it faced up to the central fact, that no economic activity

can be indefinitely subsidized by the state, without being submitted to rather strict state control.

After all, if anyone going into the oyster shell industry was to be guaranteed an annual profit of \$100,000, three-quarters of the country would shortly be engaged in oyster shell production. If production quotas were not fixed, this is the kind of truth that is not always apparent, however, to farm organizations. Except for the leftwing Farmers' Union, Brannan was therefor not supported by any of the powers of the farm lobby; and the potent Farm Bureau Federation actually led the venomous attack upon him.

Since Brannan had also made the remarkably foolish mistake of failing to consult any of the congressional farm leaders, the Brannan bill was shortly sunk without trace. After considerable comings and goings, the Gore bill, guaranteeing the farmers a flat 90 per cent of the mythical parity, which simply meant promising particularly large and entirely rigid farm subsidies. The Gore bill made no mention of controls. Thus, the farmers were to be stimulated to over-produce by high, rigidly guaranteed prices, with no further restrictions than the controls of the old 1938 farm law.

In the senate, Secretary Brannan's predecessor, Senator Clinton Anderson of New Mexico, then offered still another bill, providing for subsidies on a sliding scale from 75 to 90 per cent of parity, according to the conditions of farm production and of the economy. Again no further production controls were included. Senate Majority Leader Scott Lucas then the less got behind the Anderson bill, together with the administration's other congressional chieftains. The Anderson bill looked like a moderate compromise, and all seemed to be in order—until the key vote on the amendment by Senator Russell of Georgia, restoring the 90 per cent parity provision of the house bill. This vote was even, 37 to 37,

and the entire program is one well worth full support tomorrow.

The Price of Expediency

When Czechoslovakia's leaders sold that little democracy into Russia's hands for the sake of what then appeared to be expediency, the Czechs and the western world knew that things would not go well for the land Benes and Masaryk built.

But they didn't know how bad it would get. For a while Premier Gottwald bled quietly and slowly Moscow's wonders to perform. He staged "liberation" celebrations and wore velvet gloves.

Now, with Moscow desperately trying to secure its holdings in the Balkans, the tempo in Czechoslovakia has changed. The once-merry, once-optimistic Czechs—who loved Pilsner beer and self-government and freedom from worry—are gripped by fear.

Any knock on any door may mean the secret police are there to arrest, without explanation, some member of the household. Between 3,000 to 5,000 persons already have been jailed and the communist government's plan calls for the arrest of at least 10,000 persons, allegedly to curtail resistance to said government. It is part of the class-warfare plan: Members of opposition political parties, professional men such as doctors and lawyers, independent businessmen, and Catholics, especially priests, are all marked for extinction. The schools, the press, the church are all under tight government control.

For the people of Czechoslovakia, the innocent people—and our hearts go out to them—there is no appeal, no escape. It has been decreed that they must pay the price of expediency, of hopeful collaboration with the communists in the Kremlin.

Varying opinions as to present and potential business—most of them optimistic—find a stabilizer on the bright side with the disclosure that in Oregon the sales of E bonds are up and redemptions down. Sales in September exceeded those in August, and the same is true for the first nine months of the year as compared with 1948. And added to the fact that redemptions are less is the indication that "in almost every case of substantial bond cash-ins, the money obtained is being used for some constructive purpose." The domestic picture is an encouraging one.

It looked a long way to the Community Chest goal of \$105,000 Wednesday. Response to volunteer workers in some cases has been meagre. It would be a sad commentary on Salem if there were insufficient funds to carry on vital emergency aid and children's programs. In just one word—no matter how many extra-curricular drives there have been, the Community Chest is a "must" by all means, from every conceivable standpoint.

A rather insignificant item from Austria catches the eye with new import in the light of the recent defeat of communists in Austrian elections. The item said an Austrian policeman arrested a Russian soldier whose truck ran into and killed two pedestrians. It was the first arrest of the Russian military by the civilian government in Austria in four years.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1.)

Cooks and Stewards, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, United Public Workers.

To withdraw would mean isolation and tough going in the present political climate both of America and of the labor movement. These unions would have no standing with the national labor relations board unless their officers signed non-communist affidavits which most of them have already refused to do. Both CIO and AFL unions would proceed to poach on their territory, enjoying the prestige of legal recognition. What these unions do will probably be dictated by the communist party, after reference to Moscow. Communist strategy may be to have these unions stay in the CIO.

If no previous accession by the radical unions to the CIO convention will have to face up to the issue of whether to let communists hold office in affiliate unions. This time it looks as though the chips were down.

Mail Brings Henry Plenty Of New Ideas

By Henry McLemore
LONDON, Oct. 12—A batch of letters from readers reached me from the New York office today, and while dawdling over a breakfast of broiled kipper and poached old school, the you must try poached Ruyter (sometimes simply marvelous), I read them.

I won't be able to make it, but a hat company cordially invites me to drop by New York's "21" and talk a nip with Robert Montgomery, who, it seems, is now a radio commentator. I'd like to be there, because I'd like to meet the man who, to my way of thinking, starred in the best picture ever made in the United States—"Night Must Fall."

A dun from the Winged Foot Golf Club of Mamaroneck, N.Y., puzzles me. The club says I owe it \$1.05, and that this debt was run up on August 31, during the course of play for the Walker Cup by British and American golfers. As I happened to be in Spain at the time, I don't see how I could owe the club \$1.05. It is possible that some person used my name at Winged Foot, but it is hard for me to believe that anyone has ever been so desperate as to go about posing as me.

Have shingles and the whole world sympathizes with you. The bulk of the mail that came in today was from men and women who had had or still have the accused ailment. They all sympathized with me, and nearly all of them suggested cures. The cures ranged from simple, home-made ones to fancy ones that required the help of practically every great physician since Osler, and electrical paraphernalia sufficient to fill the innards of a B-36.

My favorite, however, is this one from Mr. R. W. Uttinger, 2003 Hernandez, Pensacola, Florida, and I quote quite freely from it:

"This one cured my brother-in-law. He took the severed head of a chicken, preferably black, because the one that turned the trick was black, and let the hot blood pour over the affected spot. You'll get relief in two hours. Beg pardon, Mr. Applegate says that he got immediate relief and slept like a child within two hours stretched out across a bale of burlap bags in his feed mill. The burlap bags had nothing to do with the cure. Commonsense, not medical science, should enable you to figure out the why."

"I am in no way assuming that I am a medical doctor, and please don't hold anything against me that I have written. I am only relating a true incident. Cordially, etc."

I certainly don't hold anything against Mr. Uttinger for having written me. Indeed, I am grateful for any suggestion of a cure for what must be the all-time high in miseries. I am quite sure that I would try the remedy that did such wonders for Mr. Applegate if it were only possible to get a chicken, a chicken of any color, in London. But the labor government is in charge of all English chickens and they are all but impossible to come by. No use trying to get a chicken when you can't even get an egg. Also, I have no feed mill or burlap bag couch handy, and they too are difficult to procure when one is a visitor in a big and foreign city.

But as soon as I get back, which won't be long, Mr. Uttinger can bet his boots that some black chicken is going to have his neck wrung, and not for boiling or frying purposes, either.

and goats, are used in their detection. He writes: "Now it may be that I could get a monopoly on the cures, as there are plenty of cures in this country, and it seems the people only want the dogs with pedigrees. Of course, I realize that this scheme may show up a lot of the dogs which had blue ribbons, for all that would have to be did would be to let the dog get where the truffles was and many a dog would loose his reputation."

I have little doubt but that Mr. Freeman, before many years have passed, will be the truffle king of America. (Distributed by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

The Safety Valve

TO THE EDITOR: In your "Seems To Me" column, you recommend to the voters of Salem the merger of West Salem with Salem.

You admit that the acquisition of that portion above West Salem has made a problem for Salem in regards to sewers and there are other things you didn't mention.

It's hard to understand how the people of Salem allowed that to go over. It's just because the ones mostly affected adversely fall to vote.

Of course, there are some swell residences up there and also residents with plenty of influence, or such a silly thing wouldn't have been submitted to the people. No doubt those sponsoring the affair knew how little the majority trouble to vote in such elections.

I see in this morning's paper that the drainage here has been put off again. Of course, the new pumps may be able to pump the sewage onto the streets where children play, but I doubt that it will clear up the flooding.

Our own water mains are so rotten they break out continuously, and still you advocate taking over another "jalopy" with a water pump that's shot, and an exhaust pipe that won't take care of the gas. The people up in the hills bought the "crate" to get out of Salem and Marion county, but now the radiator runs dry and we are asked to fix it, before we fix our own.

I hope the voters of Salem look at what they're getting, and overhaul their own vehicle first. The one on the other side of the fence has a nicely painted top, but under the hood and floor boards, "it ain't so good."

WM. STEPANEK,
1980 North 19th Street,
Salem.

Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I would like to talk to you."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "comeliness"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Eventually, evenness, evolutionary, erosion.
4. What does the word "poignant" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with imp that means "obligatory"?

ANSWERS
1. Say, "I should like to talk with you." 2. Pronounce kum-li-neas, u as in rum. 3. Evenness. 4. Sharply affecting; keen. (Pronounce "poin-yant"). "His night was filled with poignant memories." 5. Imperative.

DIDN'T HELP HIM
ATHENS—(INS)—An Athens hardware merchant named Vor-yidis donated his entire fortune to relief of war refugees, but a court martial sentenced him to death, anyway, for contributing financially to the Communist-led Greek rebellion.

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