

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sweeps Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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"Pie in the Sky"

President Truman's liberal helping of income — \$12,000 per family (A.D. 2000)—in his message to congress last week was just part of the Pollyanna line the administration seems to be taking up. Skies are rosy, and here's your slice, come 1950 and much, much more in the year 2000. Stick around and see.

In the past the president hasn't proven himself very competent as an economic expert, expert that is in selecting ideas from his stable of advisers. At the war's end he thought things were coming down in a crash, so he tossed overboard numerous price controls, encouraged wage increases and called for price decreases, only to see both shoot higher. And he called for legislation to provide 60,000,000 jobs which Henry Wallace said we should have to avert painful unemployment. Congress held out on such legislation—and the job lists swelled considerably beyond the 60,000,000.

A year ago Mr. Truman was full of fears of inflation. He asked for controls and more controls, controls over prices and credits, extension of rent control, etc. But while he was speaking the forces of deflation were building up and letting wind out of prices. When summer came the federal reserve board was ready to relax some of its credit controls in the desire to buoy business.

Looking at Truman's misses in economic forecasting previously the public might very well conclude that his pie in the sky is just baloney.

America's Kicked-Around Class

There's been a lot of lamentation about the decline and fall of the middle class in Europe. The ascendancy of socialism has been blamed on it, and vice versa.

In America, too, the middle class is the most kicked-around class, says Dorothy Thompson, in the January Ladies Home Journal. What happened in Europe when the top and bottom squeezed the middle to death can happen here, too. Writes the columnist:

"This middle class, by nature, training and profession composed of the strongest individuals and supporters of democracy, should never have to doubt the promises of democracy and should be among the first to benefit from its performance." But is it? No.

Instead, "the salaried man and the self-employed professional pay through the nose in the usually limited years when their earnings may be high." Government taxes bite a big chunk out of his paycheck. (In Portland there's a tax on professional workers.) He can't expect any old-age security from existing social-security schemes. He can be fired at random; his wage is whatever he as an individual can command. He gets no subsidies, like the farmers. He can't negotiate for pensions the way union members can. All he has is that rugged individualism. And you can't buy bricks for the chimney with that.

As a result, says Dorothy, "we shall have a fear-ridden middle class, driven into yes-man servility, into cutthroat inner-office competition and into... stomach ulcers... excessive drinking..." Not only is this unfortunate cuss driven to drink; what's worse, he's driven to organize. "Abstractly," Miss Thompson doesn't like the idea of teachers' unions or of a newspaper guild. But "sheer brutal reality" is forcing the unionization of the white collar man.

What to do? Miss Thompson backs the program suggested by the New York City bar association. It urges that members of the poor, neglected middle class be allowed to set aside a certain amount of their income to be invested in government bonds, as an emergency and pen-

sion fund. The investment would be tax-free unless it was drawn upon and thereby became part of the income. The scheme would assure sale of U. S. bonds and help give the salaried worker some security.

Prospects of this program appear pretty shadowy. The government is going to look after its own—farmers and labor—first. (The white collar man is probably a republican, anyway, and who cares about them?)

So the middle class is going to have to keep its own nose above water without much help from government life preservers. People will continue to expect the salaried man to help pay for union-workers' pensions and for old-age and welfare-benefits for others. At the same time he is supposed to put something away for his own rainy day. About all he can do for himself right now is buy what insurance he can afford from private companies and put a nickel a week in the piggy bank. Nobody's going to do it for him.

Maybe his best security would be to go to vocational school and learn some useful trade. Coal mining, maybe.

Remember the Maine

The Flying Arrow incident illustrates what might have happened if things were reversed and the U. S. had decided to continue aiding Chiang Kai-Shek.

As it is, the Flying Arrow, an American freighter, was trying to run merchandise to communist-held Shanghai through the nationalist blockade. Nationalist forces fired upon and disabled the freighter.

Suppose, instead, a U. S. freighter had tried to run a communist blockade in an attempt to get war material to the nationalists. And was sunk by communist fire. Or suppose a ship carrying guns and ammunition to the communists had ignored a U. S. cannon ball fired across her bow. And was sunk by American seamen.

The Flying Arrow business, unpleasant though it is, is not going to precipitate a war; it will merely serve as a warning to shippers that the normal hazards of the China Sea have been increased. It will also make Chiang Kai-Shek more unpopular in this country—which is okay with the U. S. state department. But if American sailors lost their lives by communist action, U. S. public opinion would be clamoring for revenge. Remember the Maine?

(Thus we are somewhat relieved to learn that the 300 U. S.-made army tanks and armored cars purchased by the nationalists are being shipped to Formosa aboard a Turkish freighter.)

Members of the Eugene High school band which went to Alaska for a concert tour thought Willamette valley's freezing temperatures were pretty warm. It was 30 below zero when they were in Skagway... Might as well be spring here, huh?

The American freighter "Flying Arrow" attempted to run the blockade near Shanghai against the advice of the U. S. state department. It was shelled and disabled. Now it wants the state department to help it out of that kettle of fish... Just like the kid told not to touch the hot stove: "Mommy, I got burned!"

"Furniture to Hold" says a market report. Good news for the bulky individuals who have had reason to lose faith in chairs and bedsteads.

People dressed in loose white clothes have the best chance of surviving atomic flash burns, a government announcement says. Would a shroud do?

Defense Double-talk 'Grave Scandal'

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop
WASHINGTON, Jan. 11 — It is a little hard to convey, to a naturally peaceable people, the real meaning of the defense "economy" in the president's new budget.

This is particularly true when the secretary of defense—himself publicly asserts that defense savings are being "made" without any reduction in our state of preparedness," as Louis Johnson recently told the National Manufacturers' association.

Fortunately, however, there is one very easy way to show what a gross deception is now being practiced. Consideration has recently been given to revising the joint chiefs of staff, to provide for withdrawal

from Japan, Okinawa and perhaps the Philippines in case of war. This is how far we have come, under Louis Johnson's "economy" program. The process of impairment of our security began in the autumn of 1948, when President Truman rejected the pleas of the late Secretary of Defense James V. Forrestal, to implement the joint chiefs' requirements plan. The J.C.S. requirements plan, is what its name implies — a plan setting forth the minimum requirements for fully defending this country and the free world from potential Soviet aggression.

This decision of the president's threw us back, defense-wise, on the joint chiefs' capabilities plan.

This plan is also what its name implies — the J.C.S. plan for doing the best we can with what we have, in event of sudden war. The available American combat strength, present and in prospect, is being progressively whittled away by Johnsonian "economy," thus the capabilities plan has to be continuously revised. As reported in this space, all hope of holding in the Mediterranean was sacrificed some time ago.

Our naval weakness in the Pacific has now caused the wartime fate of our garrisons in Japan and Okinawa to be called in question (which makes Secretary Johnson's project for a Formosa adventure look pretty sick). Our Pacific navy is hardly stronger than at the time of Pearl Harbor. This might not matter, since there is no Japanese navy to oppose us. What is really far worse is the fact that only the smallest beginning is being made on the task of combating the new, high-speed, radar-proof German submarine which the Soviet Union is building in quantity.

It is true that Adm. Forrest Sherman has sensibly concentrated his effort on improving the navy's anti-submarine capabilities, which are now hopelessly inadequate. But the task is enormous, and enormously expensive. It cannot possibly be done, on any important scale, within the framework of the defense department's "economy" policy. Meanwhile, although the current talk of hundreds of German-type Soviet submarines is undoubtedly exaggerated, all intelligence reports suggest that the Kremlin will have a powerful submarine fleet operating from Manchurian and Chinese ports by 1955 or sooner.

Continued penny-pinching on our own anti-submarine effort, plus Soviet submarine development, can add up to only one outcome. The trans-Pacific lines

of communication will be indefensible. Our Japanese and Okinawa garrisons will be cut off, and left exposed. The trans-Pacific positions will become untenable.

Very likely, the existence of the problem will be denied, and the problem will be handled as was that of the Philippines and Guam before the last war. But official denials and official delusions will not alter the underlying situation, or the meaning of that situation to the security of this country.

Furthermore, this situation involving our trans-Pacific bases is by no means special or untypical. The requirements plan of the joint chiefs of staff (and every other serious study) calls for an American air force of 70 groups as the minimum consistent with reasonable security. By 1955, according to official calculations, the Johnsonian "economy" policy will leave us with an air force of about 35 groups equipped with modern aircraft, plus some cats and dogs. We would have only 33 modern groups by 1955, if the decision had not been made to train air force candidates with old planes, instead of buying up-to-date trainers.

This "economy" is to be accomplished, moreover, by something perilously like the abandonment of fighter and tactical aviation as American weapons. And this is to be done in the face of most ominous intelligence reports, telling of great Soviet advances in air strength of all kinds.

If the people were frankly consulted, and if they then freely chose to denude their own defenses, no one could criticize Secretary Johnson. But what is being done is a grave scandal—there is no other word—against the background of the kind of statement the defense secretary made to the assembled manufacturers not so long ago.

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Russians Use U. N. to Insure Ties in China

By J. M. Roberts, Jr.
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

The Soviet Union is using the United Nations security council to make big medicine with the Chinese communists.

That's about the only profit to be seen for the reds in Jacob Malik's walkout.

It seems obvious that with spreading recognition of the Peiping regime — five council members already have done it — that nationalist China is on the way out as a member. Malik is trying up the council now over an issue on which he already stood to win by default, perhaps within a few weeks.

But, despite Mao Tze-tung's protestations of comradeship with Moscow, there are issues to be settled there, too. The American state department has information leading it to believe that Mao has trouble with nationalism at home. Control of Manchuria is in the hands of a group which is reported to maintain far greater liaison with Moscow than with Peiping. But Manchuria is vital if Mao is to get anywhere with his promises of a better economic life for the Chinese.

Russia, isn't giving anything up to anyone, of course. But by standing as Peiping's chief friend before the world she can spread a little bit that was not expected. There were indications that it occurred on last minute instructions from Moscow, where Mao is now an honored and volubly co-operative guest.

The United States stands to lose either way when the issue is finally decided. The U. S. delegation continues to hold that such questions are procedural and not subject to veto, thereby weakening the position of Chiang Kai-shek's representative. But if and when the seven votes against the nationalists are secured, as expected, the U. S. will be in the position of doing business in the U. N. with a govern-

Due to the death of Mrs. McLemore's father and her subsequent illness, there will be no HENRY MCLEMORE columns for Thursday or Friday of this week.

ment which it refuses to recognize individually.

That is likely to continue for the few months which the state department expects the Chiang government on Formosa to last. If the nationalists surprise with signs of more permanent tenure, say beyond six months, then the matter of recognition will have to be reconsidered.

The U. S., basically, seems to be trying for time in which something will happen to help her drive a wedge between the Chinese communists and Moscow. Manchuria is the chief peg for this hope. In the meantime, Washington seems prepared to accept whatever equivocal position may result from the security council argument.

Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I want to make an especial announcement."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "gum arabic"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Ptomaine, tonnage, tonneau, tonsorial.
4. What does the word "heterodox" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with **comp** that means "self-reproach for wrongdoing"?

ANSWERS

1. It is better to say, "I want to make a special announcement."
2. Pronounce second word as a-bik, first a as in at, second as in ask unstressed, i as in it, and accent first syllable.
3. Ptomaine, 4. Differing from some acknowledged standard, as the Bible; not orthodox. "The minister's heterodox opinions antagonized the elders of the church."
5. Compunction.

GRIN AND BEAR IT



"But what if it is a stinker, chief? ... ten years from now they'll revive it as a great classic for television ..."

Your Health

By Dr. Herman N. Sundness, M. D.

SOME diseases seem to occur only in epidemic form. They seldom attack one or a few individuals, but spread rapidly through a whole community.

One of these is known as epidemic pleurodynia. A recent outbreak shows that in nearly every instance several members of a family were afflicted at the same time and, in some cases, all were stricken within a week.

This disease is no respecter of ages, the oldest patient in the group studied being 59, the youngest three years old. Nevertheless, it seems to have a preference for younger people, since 8 out of 10 of these patients were under 30 years of age.

The condition starts suddenly with a pain in the chest, variously described as "stabbing," "knife-like," or "like a vise" around the lower ribs. In the outbreak mentioned, the pain occurred in attacks, the patient being completely free from the pain between the attacks. The pain was made worse by deep breathing and in some cases by yawning or talking or walking.

A number of the patients found they were able to lie comfortably on their abdomen. In most of the cases, the pain affected the chest alone, but, in a number of other instances, the abdomen was also involved. The chest pain was always felt over the lower ribs, in both front and back.

Other symptoms included headache, which was usually of moderate severity. A short-lived, dry cough often developed, of importance chiefly because it made the pain worse. Loss of appetite lasted only a short time in more cases and was most noticeable the first day or two of the sickness. Pain in the legs and chilly sensations were also present early in the disease. Most of the patients had fever ranging from 99 to 100 degrees.

X-ray examinations during the illness revealed nothing abnormal. Furthermore, there did not seem to be any effect on the number of white cells in the blood early in the sickness, although a reduction in a number of cells was noted in some of the patients after several days.

The symptoms in some cases were like those of severe influenza.

Thus far, the exact cause of this condition has not been determined. It may possibly be due to an infection with a virus. Treatment with penicillin and streptomycin evidently does not alter the course of the disorder. Rest in bed and good nursing care are important in the treatment.

This condition is of importance because it may sometimes be confused with certain disorders, such as gallbladder disease, which require operation.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
T. S.: I have been bothered with my hips and legs for five years. They get so sore at times that I can hardly walk, mostly in damp weather. What would you suggest?

Answer: It is possible that the symptoms are due to some form of arthritis or inflammation of the joints.

You should have an examination made by your physician, including X-ray of the joints, so that a definite diagnosis may be made.

(Copyright, 1950, King Features)

The Golden Horn, inlet of the Sea of Marmara in the passage between the Black and Mediterranean seas, was so called because of the rich fishing there.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1.)

...one other than Guy C. Myers. He is to get ten percent commission on amounts realized above the \$10,000,000 (excluding the regular \$300,000 dividend), until the owners are paid off, then 19 per cent of any additional proceeds not exceeding \$3,900,000, and ten per cent on any sum above that.

If SEC approves the transaction, which is rather doubtful, Myers will proceed to hawk the Pacific properties to PUDs. He may try to sell P&L in the Portland area to Portland General Electric company. Parcels like properties in Hood River, Deschutes and Wasco counties might be offered to local public ownership agencies. Perhaps new PUD moves may be initiated to pick up the tails of the system: Astoria, Pendleton, Central Oregon.

What SEC will scrutinize is the sale by private negotiation rather than by bidding, also the commission offered to Myers. A sale of P&L to PGE would require the approval of the city of Portland and of the Oregon public utilities commissioner.

This would leave Washington Water Power and Portland Gas & Coke companies dangling on the AP&P hook; but means would be found soon to dispose of them.

It looks like a callous business deal on the part of AP&P. Holding the common stock of P&L, its concern is to get as much money out of it as it can. Like the owners of Puget Sound Power & Light it is ready to quit fighting public ownership—for a price. Presidents McKee and Robinson of P&L and WWP have had hopes that their companies would be allowed to continue as private corporations, but their counsel evidently has been ignored by President Alier of AP&P.

Locally we have no direct concern in the matter, but if the deal goes through the system will be dismembered, flung to the four winds as it were, with little regard paid to interests of localities or of employees of the company. The western public caught in the machinations of Wall street and the politicians. The "children of light" are proving themselves adept in the methods of the children of darkness.

Hollywood on Parade

By Gene Handaker

HOLLYWOOD — Walter Huston on going to the movies: "They wouldn't make any money if they depended on my dough. I saw 'The Fallen Idol' the other night. Pretty good show. First movie I'd seen in six months."

On living in Hollywood: "I wouldn't know what to do with myself if I lived here all the time."

Walter lives in a redwood house he built in 1932 at 6,700 feet altitude in the San Bernardino mountains, 100 miles away. Seven bedrooms, 30-by-60 foot living room, big kitchen where Walter does the cooking. He's up at seven every morning to make things with his power tools ("chairs, the bed I sleep in, a piano, lamp, all kinds of things").

When in one of his once-a-year movies (he's in town now making "The Furies") he lives with his wife in a Hollywood hotel. Walter adds: "I go to New York the first of every year and stay until about the first of June. I get my city life there." But the mountains, away from it all — "That's really the life!"

Gale Storm did the pictures for her studio in five months. She finished the last, "The Whip," on a Thursday. The studio said, "You start the next one Monday in Philadelphia."

Said Gale, by then weary: "No thanks." Now freelancing, she hopes for a good part, which she rates. Tis Bloomington, Tex., beauty is one Hollywoodian who has never gone Hollywood...

Her husband, Lee Bonnell, who switched from acting two years ago, has a thriving insurance business. "Mostly life policies," he explains; "usually there's just one claim."

The weather cooperated beautifully with the "Battleground" premiere. The picture is about U.S. airmen fighting Germans and fog. Previewers emerged from the theater into the pea-soupier fog of the year...

"Death on a Side Street," starring England's James Mason and Sweden's Marta Toren, is being directed by an Argentinian, Hugo Fregonese, of Italian parentage.

Kirk Douglas, father of two boys: "I'd hate to have either of them be a movie star—even for millions. No money can compensate for the loss of a normal childhood..."

Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

HOME TOWN, by Cleveland Amory (Harper, \$3)

The hick and the slick, the uncouth and the couth meet in this novel about the so-called literary life by an author who, having written "The Proper Bostonians," should know what the literary life is.

Bill Devereux does publicity for Hathaway, publisher; an editor decides that some columns by Mitchell Hickok of Copper City, Ariz., will make a book; somebody important who knows Hickok also knows Hathaway and hopes Hathaway will do right by the young man; Hathaway passes the word on to Bill, who on a trip west visits the author in his native habitat.

It looks to Bill like a hopeless job, and the best he can do is to fit out his author in a 10-gallon hat and try to make out that he's related to Wild Bill Hickok. But Hickok in New York proves uncooperative. He is not related to Wild Bill; he says; a 10-gallon hat to him is nothing but a souvenir; a cocktail party attended by the right people isn't so important as a bus ride out of which he can get a story for the paper back home; and as for blowing his own horn, he doesn't have a horn.

Thanks to a fistfight in the Pennsylvania station, Hickok gets a front page story and picture. From then on, when publicity-minded Bill wins a round from unpublicity-minded Hickok, it's pure chance. It's the sophisticated versus the unsophisticated, the wise man versus the innocent, guile versus guilelessness. And it all offers an excellent opportunity for take-offs on radio programs, publishing, publicity and critics... I particularly enjoyed the critic who every month hails the finest book of the decade.

This is a satire which I respect, thanks to its restraint, its consistency and its general pertinence, but a satire which I can't call amusing; it is not the funniest satire of the decade. Just why a bright idea intelligently developed doesn't arouse laughter I'm not sure; it's either too close to the truth, or not close enough. The take-offs are good, but there aren't enough happy landings.

Salem School News

By Gilbert Bateson
School Correspondent

LESLIE JUNIOR HIGH
Leslie students will elect second semester student body officers Monday.

Candidates are: President, Don Agnew, Tom Hunt; vice-president, Dianne Burkland, Barbara Anderson, Bill Ringalsd; secretary, Arlys Zech, Beverly Roy, Shirley Harp, Barbara Franzwa; treasurer, Jean Jorgenson, George Matter, Sylvia Lottick, Sidney Kromer; sergeant-at-arms, Dick Morris, Pat Largent, Curtiss Adsett, Bob Clark; song queen, Laurel Herr, Phyllis Shlake, Claudia Waters; yell king, David Hunt, Dean Read.

The two candidates for each office who received the most votes in the primaries will be voted upon in the general election to be held January 20.

SALEM HIGH SCHOOL
Salem superintendent of schools Frank Bennett spoke Wednesday before a joint Tri-Y and Hi-Y assembly on the topic "Should I Go to College?"

GRANT SCHOOL
Mary Wood is the newly elected president of the student body at Grant school. Other officers are: Vice-president, Gwen Klinge; secretary, Mary January, sergeant-at-arms, Chris Battalione.

Also elected were room representative to the student council. Council representatives are: Kenneth Ayres, Mike Graham, Carol Buck, Linda Ireland, Patricia Haggard, Dickie Pedersen, Rebecca Singer, Patricia Haggard, Kenneth Nelson, Laura Moore, Judy Feller, Gerald Silke, Ray Olliver, Byron Clemmens, Dina Boyd, Charlene Gronke, Robert Richardson, Dick Vittone, Sara Allen, Marilyn Tate, Robert McDonald, Darrell Clemens, Nancy Denton, Sharon Pessinger, Robert Wood, Douglas Simmons, Peggy Ann McClucas, Paulette Talbot.

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IF YOU ARE NOT GOING TO CHURCH

1. Because you desire a modern religion conforming to science and scholarship
2. Because you want a religion of principles rather than creed

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Sunday, January 15
YWCA, 7:30 P. M.