

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
From First Statesman, March 23, 1851

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## Decline of British Liberals

British liberals have rejected the appeal of Churchill to join with the conservatives in an anti-socialist front. The coalition was proposed as a means of beating the Labor party in the general election set for February 23. The liberals long held power but now have shrunk to a minor third party role in British politics. They replied to Churchill, saying:

"Liberals and Conservatives are as different as chalk is from cheese. It is true that the Liberals are strongly opposed to socialism. But they are equally strongly opposed to conservatism."

In other words the liberals will go it alone, though they have no chance of becoming even the major party in opposition.

Such is the common fate of liberal movements. Essentially a party of moderation eventually it falls apart, one section becoming more radical, the other more conservative.

The phrase Carlyle uses in his French Revolution applies in measure here: revolutions devour their own children. Liberals have a hard time maintaining their position: the extreme is apt to absorb the center. In Britain it looks as though the liberal party was rather fully devoured by labor or Tories, even if a remnant lifts its once proud banner in a fresh contest.

## "Issues" in CVA

Deplored the type of campaign being waged against a CVA particularly by the Pacific Northwest Development Association, the International Woodworker, a CIO publication, points to what it calls the "vital issues" involved in CVA. To quote:

Completely ignored are the vital issues with which CVA must deal: soil erosion—the fastest eroding lands in this country today are the wheat lands in Eastern Oregon and Washington; over grazing—thousands of acres of once rich grass land is now depleted, the grass all but dead and huge areas taken over by sage brush; the cut-out-and-get-out policy now prevalent in our forests—when our watersheds are gone, then it will be too late to sit and cry for CVA to save us; shall the control of power generated at these dams be held by the people or given to the private power boys at the bus bar.

So conservation of upland resources is urged as a reason for the CVA. But already other departments of government are charged with responsibility in this field: soil conservation service, forest service, grazing service. They remain independent agencies if a CVA should be set up. A CVA would have power to formulate a regional budget and could divert money to carry on these functions if it chose to do so. But you have the chance of a conflict of jurisdiction such as is deplored on water projects.

Why not do the job right and set up a department of natural resources as recommended by a substantial minority of the Hoover commission? This department would have authority over river and upland development and so could integrate the program. As a national department it could relate its activity to similar work elsewhere in the country.

It is unfortunate that the regional authority proposal was interjected when it was. The road should have been kept clear for considering recommendations of the Hoover commission.

## Heigh, Heigh, Hay

A great deal of hay moves out of central Oregon into the Willamette valley and to the dairy regions along the coast. The Santiam highways are a main connecting link for the hay haul.

The Bend Bulletin, noting this movement estimated at 39,000 tons in 1949, thinks it would

be much better for central Oregon if the hay were fed to livestock on that side of the mountains, giving added income from animal products and helping maintain soil fertility through animal fertilizer.

The Bulletin's reasoning is good, but what would our cows do for hay? As valley farmers have turned to growing seed and other specialty crops acreage devoted to forage crops has declined. Since dairy farming must be carried on extensively here to supply milk to the large population it is probable that valley farmers will continue to bid enough to attract hay from the irrigated lands across the mountains.

Perhaps the solution is to have two blades of alfalfa grow where only one grew before. We pass the suggestion on to the alert Bulletin.

## Russian Wry: Russian Rue

There's a perverse sort of humor in a U. S. magazine's birthday present for Joseph Stalin. The communist-line monthly, Soviet Russia Today, published in New York, filled its January issue with salaams to the Russian dictator. It's self-prostration was an epic birthday greeting:

"The people everywhere are in eternal debt to you (Stalin) . . . for saving humanity from fascist enslavement, bringing victory to the banners of democracy, giving life and freedom to millions . . . We hail you for the shining example set by your country . . . (and) wish you, for humanity's sake, many happy returns of the day!"

After this touching genuflection, Editor Jessica Smith ran three pages of tributes to Stalin from some great Americans, including Franklin Roosevelt, Wendell Wilkie, Cordell Hull, Donald Nelson, Harry Hopkins, Ambassador Joseph E. Davies, Senator Claude Pepper and Secretary of State James F. Byrnes. There is even a quotation complimenting Stalin from his (currently) arch enemy, Winston Churchill. These statements, of course, were made during the war when Russia was our ally.

Soviet Russia Today, obviously, seeks to flatter its master with this groveling but surely somebody's tongue is in cheek. The expressions quoted from past statements by U. S. leaders not only stultify their unwitting perpetrators, living and dead! publishing them as though they were the famous last words of their originators also makes a fool out of Stalin. He knows perfectly well that everyone of the above, from Roosevelt to Churchill, would happily eat their words. As it is, they can only choke on them. And so must Stalin.

The Oregon council of churches adopted a resolution calling for a thorough investigation of the CVA proposal. By the way, whatever became of that study the state board of control was going to make of CVA? That was Treasurer Pearson's idea. Have he and the others been doing their "home work" to be ready for class on CVA?

Salem water system is one of ten in the state listed by the state board of health as free from bacterial contamination during 1949. That's good news, though consumers have had confidence in the water's purity. With the completion of the Detroit dam an assured supply of pure water will be available for Greater Salem.

## Republicans Evidently Still Divided, Uncertain

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 26—The spectacle of the plight of the republicans must contribute considerably to President Truman's present happy mood.

All the signs of the congressional session in fact suggest that the republican party is going into the crucial 1950 election more, not less divided, more, not less uncertain, more, not less defensive-minded.

The real significance of the recent vote on the house rules, for example, lay in its revelation of an almost unprecedented split in republican ranks. Nothing could be more unimaginative or less appealing than the leadership of the house republicans by the Martin-Brown-Hallock-Allen junta. Hitherto, however, Rep. Joseph W. Martin and his lieutenants have always been able to keep almost all their cohorts strictly in line.

Last week, they pointed the Southern Democrats in the attempt to restore the former powers of the house rules committee. As they very frankly declared on the floor, their purpose was to spare members the political temptation to vote for welfare legislation. A revolt against them was used by the administration fair employment practices act was used by the administration as a sort of club to break the power of the republican leadership. Sixty odd republican members, fearful of the Negro voters in their districts, took their stand with the Northern Democrats.

The plan of the southerners and republican conservatives was quickly smashed.

This was, essentially, a public declaration by this large group of once-obedient house republicans that they had given up hope of winning by sticking to republican orthodoxy. On any issue with strong popular appeal, the president will have the same power to make the republicans break ranks.

On the other hand, the power of republican orthodoxy is still sufficient to paralyze the party and prevent it from taking a constructive line of its own. In the house, the representatives who voted against the Martin leadership are being subjected to a campaign of intimidation by large contributors back home, who have been stirred up to telephone protests against "me-too-ism."

In the senate, although no single action could so upset the Truman strategy as passing the F. E. P. C., the republican leadership will probably not be able to muster enough votes for cloture, and this is because the business contributors dislike the F. E. P. C.—almost as much as the southerners.

Men like Senators Ives of New York and Lodge of Massachusetts are working overtime to persuade all their colleagues to help break the expected southern filibuster. Several senators, like Taft of Ohio and Hickenlooper of Iowa, will vote for cloture while opposing the bill itself. Yet it is generally expected that cloture will not be voted; the southerners will win again; and Truman will be able to pin a good part of the blame on the republicans. The state of frustration that this sort of thing induces in the wiser republican leaders has to be seen to be believed.

Yet they cannot escape from their dilemma; it confronts them everywhere. At the moment, for instance, Republican National Chairman Guy George Gabrielson is busily working on his

famous statement of republican principles, which is frankly intended to make the fat cats listed by the Gabrielson drafting group has already roughed out a statement that would cause every American voter with less than \$10,000 a year to support the democrats in every election for another decade.

The parallel house and senate drafting groups are meanwhile wrangling about the best way to please the contributors without alienating all the rest of the electorate. It is already clear that the adoption of a highly conservative statement, such as might help Gabrielson in his task of money-raising, will cause Lodge and Ives, Morse of Oregon, Alken of Vermont and the others like them to leave the republicans. The choice, in short, is between an open split and saying nothing.

All this is very nice for President Truman. The trouble is that the same situation which gives the president such wonderful political openings in domestic politics works in reverse in the sphere of foreign and defense policy. This was shown by the peevish, frivolously irresponsible house vote on the Korean aid bill.

The right-wing republicans and Southern Democrats, infuriated by the injection of civil rights into the rules committee issue, tried to get their own back by taking a back at foreign spending. It was an instinctive, unreasoning reaction. This same reaction is strong, moreover, in the senate, where the right-wing republican and Southern Democratic members of the all-powerful appropriations committee are joined in a squalid little plot to destroy the European recovery program. Altogether, the republican aim seems to be to make the worst of both worlds. No doubt this will continue to be the case while so many eminent, republicans fear contributors more than voters.

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## CHINESE 'NEEDLE WORK'



### IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page One)

a substantial block of stock in AP&L (but not a majority) urged the SEC to reject the bid of the Van Ingen (Myers) group and to accept the bid of the other group. So it is a case of "both ends against the middle."

The position of the officers of American Power and Light appears to be simply one of getting the most for their stock that they can, regardless of what happens to the company, its employees, or the communities it serves. They feel the holding company is being put out of business by law, which is largely true, so are not much concerned about whether Pacific is broken up or whether it falls into public ownership.

The hearing evidently has been a hot one, with friction among the utilitarians themselves generating some of the sparks.

SEC is in a difficult spot. Its powers are limited by law, and just how far it can go is a question. It may find it hard to deny application for sale by negotiation to one party and approve sale by negotiation to another. A lot of eyes and ears are attentive to what SEC decides in this case. In considerable degree the fate of private ownership of utilities in the northwest hangs in the balance.

## Child Genius Stories Are Bit Irsksome

By Henry McLemore  
DAYTONA BEACH, Jan. 26—

Newspapers and magazines could perform a great service to citizens of this country by pledging never to publish stories about, or pictures of, child geniuses.

Most of us inhabitants of the United States possess average, or slightly lower than average, mentalities and it brings us nothing but grief to read of a boy who has yet to lose his milk teeth leading a symphony orchestra, or of some little girl barely old enough to effect pitgails, astounding university professors with her knowledge of everything from aerodynamics to the importance of ant-eaters to civilization.

My whole day was ruined the other day by reading in the newspaper about a little brain-packer fellow in Chicago who graduated from the University of Chicago in less time than it ever took Jesse Owen to run the hundred-yard dash, which was something under ten seconds. It didn't take him as long to get a degree from a great university as it took me to learn to spell cat or rat. Seventeen of the world's swiftest tailors couldn't have cut his cap and gown in time to have it ready for him. It was distressing to read of a

boy getting his degree while seated on a tricycle when most of us had to go to two summer schools to come out with a C average.

I am quite sure that millions of other common garden variety of folk in this country agree with me. No man who has worked thirty or forty years without attaining success can possibly gain pleasure from reading of a baby who teaches mathematics from his crib. Most of us were on formulas at that age, not teaching them.

I have been a student of the mandolin for the past fifteen years and have just reached the point where I can tune it, almost. So you can imagine my feelings when I read that a member of the romper set is conducting Wagner in Vienna with a baton twice as tall as he is. It makes me want to throw my mandolin right out the window and I would, too, if it were paid for. Another thing that I wish newspapers would stop printing is the fabulous earnings of racehorses. It doesn't improve a man's opinion of himself to have a bank balance of thirteen dollars and thirty-four cents and find in the sport pages that creatures with manes, fetlocks and withers are close to having a million dollars in the bank. I am quite sure that I am not as smart as Citation or Stymie but I do not want to be reminded of it.

The most delightful reading in the world for a middle-aged failure is a story about another middle-aged failure. Let's have more stories about people who aren't geniuses. More stories about people who have trouble getting in and out of revolving doors, figuring out which end of a bus to get off of, and who had to bribe their kindergarten teacher to get a passing grade in sand-box activities.

I am so dead sure that I am right in the opinion that I expressed today that I am tempted to write my autobiography. That should be the best-seller of all time. But just to help the sales along, though, I am going to call it "Hamlet."

(Distributed by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

## Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I shall follow after you."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "coupe"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Supportable, immutable, premissible, resistible.
4. What does the word "blatant" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with cap that means "to surrender on conditions agreed upon?"

- ANSWERS
1. Omit after.
  2. Pronounce koo-pay, oo as in cool, accent second syllable.
  3. Permissible.
  4. Brawling; clamorous; noisy. (Pronounce first a as in lay).
  5. Capitulate.

## GRIN AND BEAR IT, by Lichty



"Our spring elections must go smoothly . . . we will show the Capitalist Democracies what a party can do when it is not handicapped by candidates . . ."

## Your Health

Written by  
Dr. Herman N. Bendixsen

A little child's mind is tremendously active. Varied and vivid impressions from the outside world through his own swift and each creates its own swift reaction. On the other hand, at the age of two or three, the child has not yet mastered the art of speech. It thus happens that ideas and thoughts come faster than he can express them, which accounts for the tendency to stutter, often observed in youngsters of this age.

As a matter of fact, practically all preschool children repeat sounds, syllables, and even whole sentences from time to time.

If parents sit tight and make no attempt to correct this repetition, the practice will soon disappear. Any show of concern or effort to interfere with the child's way of speaking at this time is all too likely to result in a confirmed habit of stuttering. The harder the child tries to please, the worse his stuttering is apt to become. If he makes an attempt and fails, he will try harder and stumple over words more frequently than ever until he becomes confused.

Wise parents, then, will avoid improper methods of discipline. Knowing that this repetition during early childhood is natural,

they will be careful not to criticize any hesitation in the child's speech.

Nevertheless, the child who stutters a great deal should have a thorough examination just to make sure that nothing is wrong with the speech organs. Where home surroundings are suspected of creating undue nervous tension, the doctor will suggest necessary changes but drugs or medicines are not needed in the treatment. Cooperation of the parents is usually all that is required to bring about a quick disappearance of the stuttering.

In the older children, stuttering is a much more difficult condition to overcome. It is usually accompanied with severe muscle tension, as well as anxiety on the part of the patient. Special treatment by a qualified speech teacher is needed in such instances.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
A. R.: Does excessive falling hair indicate a glandular disturbance?

Answer: Loss of hair is not always due to a glandular disorder. However, it may be in some cases. Excessively falling hair is a symptom of thyroid deficiency. A thorough study should be made to see if you have such a glandular disturbance.  
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## Literary Guidepost

BETTER A DINNER OF HERBS, by Byron Herbert Reece (Dutton; \$3)

The Preacher and his wife, Mary; their strong son, Jason, and Ezra, the idiot son; Uncle Enid and Danny; Merced, the Preacher's mother, and Abner, his hired man, are the people you meet, and are likely to remember, in this novel about some not too distant yet pastoral time on the farmlands of our country.

The story starts in Danny's waking moments. The mare does not neigh in the barn. The yard gate slams, as if some unaccounted hand had fed the stock. There is weeping downstairs, for the Preacher lies in his coffin, a shroud covering the face rubbed out when his horse threw him and dragged him along the cobble.

Uncle Enid and Danny, who is 12, are fugitives from a home as broken by passions as if it had been wrecked by bombs. When Uncle Enid's mother lay dying, she abjured him to care for Danny and to love him, and her eyes held his as she spoke to be sure he would not be saying one thing and meaning another. He learned to be fond of the boy, as the boy was fond of him, though Danny's

every breath and word reminded him of the wrong done to Danny's mother, and his, Enid's, sister, by a stranger who had fled in the night.

The boy and his uncle pile their belongings into a wagon and set out on a snowy road, perhaps, the man thinks, to work in the smelters where the pay is more than a dollar a day, as against the 50 cents he can earn in the fields. On the way they give Mary a lift, and during the long ride she offers Danny a home, and decides finally to hire Uncle Enid to help on the big farm neglected ever since the Preacher, absent on a mysterious trip, had received the "call" and turned from farming to tending flocks for the Lord.

The constantly growing conflicts, the repressions, the thwarted desires demanding release, the terrific hunger for vengeance, and the marks left indelibly on the young by the fiery play of the passions which indeed brought them to life together contribute to the vitality and intensity of this novel. The reader's interest never falters throughout all this stern, earthy, full-bodied tale.

## Hollywood on Parade

By Gene Handaker

HOLLYWOOD — Make more women's pictures. That's Author Producer Polan Banks' prescription for boxoffice ills, and the other day he was saying why:

"Women are staying away from the movies in droves because they're not being given the kind of entertainment they want. Why does a woman go to the movies? 1—To be made love to by Cary Grant or Bob Mitchum. 2—To see what Joan Crawford is wearing. 3—Have a good cry. 4—See how to get a man and hold him. Basically it's sex.

"What kind of movies is she getting? Three quarters of them are about violence, war, and problems. Men are interested in those subjects because they like adventure. But women are not. They like security.

All right, then. What is a "woman's picture?" Banks' 10 novels, all sold to Hollywood, include "The Far Horizon" (made into "The Great Lie," with Bette Davis and Mary Astor), "The Street of Women," and "The Woman Accused." He wrote and produced "Carriage Entrance," starring Ava Gardner.

"Usually a woman's picture is a story of a woman who makes a sacrifice," said Banks, a dark, soft-spoken man of 43. "It seems to be woman's eternal role to do the suffering for humanity. This woman in our story triumphs in the end, through sacrifice. Another popular form is the story of a witch. Most actresses prefer to play bad women, because there's nothing particularly interesting about the average good woman. Bette Davis is one of the greatest exponents. Joan

Crawford, recently declared to be the most publicized woman in history, including Cleopatra, is a leading exponent. Women are fascinated by witches. In every woman there's a faint speck of a witch.

"Usually there are two male leads fighting over the woman. It's a position the average woman likes to be in. Or there can be two women fighting over one man. The eternal war between women. The average woman is more interested in a personal war between women, as concerns her own experiences, than in the impersonal war between nations.

"The average woman enjoys a good cry as a tonic. Some of the most successful boxoffice pictures ever made were tearjerkers. A woman gets a workout of emotions which she seldom gets in humdrum home life. The average man is interested first in business, second in love. The average woman is interested first in love and nothing else.

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