

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

Travel Letter No. 14
COLORADO SPRINGS—The distance from Dallas, Tex., to Colorado Springs is about 800 miles.

Cultivation extends through Texas virtually to the border. The tilled land is interrupted by big patches of waste land, rough, eroded, with mesquite, yucca, and sagebrush for vegetation.

The whole area suffers severely from drought this year, the first and worst since the dry years of the 1930's.

All this is big scale farming, the same as we have in eastern (Continued on editorial page 4)

Doctors Widen Effort Toward Public Service

The Marion-Polk County Medical society, already embarked on a program of medical service to all, Wednesday announced two innovations designed to establish still further cooperation between the medical profession and the general public.

The society said: (1) Any person requiring medical care, and who is unable to communicate with his physician, may call 3-8187 (day or night) in order to locate him; the personnel at this number will also provide the names of physicians willing to take emergency calls for those patients who have no legal family physician.

(2) Any patient who has a grievance against any physician in the Marion-Polk County Medical society may address a letter to the grievance committee, in care of Dr. Howard Kurtz, president. The society's statement said it wished "to provide a better mutual understanding between patients and physicians; misunderstandings in this delicate personal relationship do occasionally occur, and can best be removed by consulting with a group of doctors who have earned the respect of the public and their professional colleagues."

China Ratifies Russian Pact

TOKYO, Thursday, April 13—(AP) The Peiping radio announced today communist China has ratified its 30-year treaty of "mutual aid and amity" with the Soviet union. The alliance binding the world's two largest communist countries was signed in Moscow Feb. 14 by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Vishinsky and Chou En-lai, premier and foreign minister of Red China.

Animal Crackers



"Junior! Stop scribbling—see here—on the walls of your—ho—room!"

Weather table with columns for Max, Min, Precip. and rows for Salem, Portland, San Francisco, Chicago, New York, and Willamette river 3 feet.

100th YEAR 20 PAGES

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851

The Oregon Statesman, Salem, Oregon, Thursday, April 13, 1950

Statesman Centennial 100th YEAR

PRICE 5c No. 17

Five Will Become Cherryland Royalty



Five of these charming girls will be Salem's 1950 Cherryland royal court after final selections Friday night at the Salem high school auditorium.

Pudding River Bridge Project Set by County

Preliminary plans to reconstruct one bridge and to accept another were made Wednesday by Marion County.

Bates Backed By Cattlemen For Director

By Lillie L. Madsen, Farm Editor, The Statesman

Floyd Bates, Salem, president of the Marion County Jersey Cattle club, was endorsed unanimously for western director to the American Jersey Cattle club.

Should Bates be elected, he will fill the place now held by Peter Henning of Arlington, Wash., whose term expires at the close of this year.

Politics on Parade

Who's Running for What in the May Primaries!

(Editor's note: Comments in this series are made by or for the candidates without restriction, and may or may not reflect the opinion of this newspaper.)

COFFEE PRICE CUT

PORTLAND, April 12—(AP)—It costs 2 cents less a pound for coffee now. The price cut became general on most brands after one brand led off by reducing its price.

BASEBALL

COAST LEAGUE At Portland-Hollywood, rain. At Seattle 6-4, Oakland 6-11. At Los Angeles 3, Sacramento 2 (13 inn.). At San Francisco 7, San Diego 13.

Salem to Join New Defense Net Program

Salem will give its full official cooperation in the new state program of air raid warning and ground observation.

The mayor planned to consult city officials on selection of a local supervisor and other matters suggested by Gov. Douglas McKay in a letter to 92 Oregon mayors.

Principal requests from the governor concerned local appointment of ground observation supervisors and possible location and building of observation posts.

The state's civil defense agency has been reactivated at the request of Louis Johnson, U. S. secretary of defense.

Headliners at the opening session today will be Dr. Martha Branscombe, director of Elizabeth McCormick Memorial fund, Chicago, Ill., Gov. Douglas McKay and Mrs. Sadie Orr Dunbar, chairman of the state committee.

The Oregon conference is preliminary to a national conference on the subject, called by President Truman.

Child, Youth Conference Opens Today

Child and youth problems will get concentrated attention from several hundred Oregon citizens in a conference which opens today in Salem.

The governor's state committee on children and youth will open the two-day meeting with a general convocation at 10 a.m. in the house of representatives at the capitol.

Attendance of nearly 1,000 during the conference was forecast Wednesday as the advance guard of conference leaders began arriving.

Various phases of youth studies will be discussed in separate meetings today and tomorrow, with final reports to be summarized in a closing session at 1:30 p.m. Friday in the house.

Salem's Size? 1,435 Guesses

So far, 1,435 persons have entered The Statesman's guessing contest regarding Salem's 1950 census figures.

Forty-six persons have guessed under 40,000. Fifteen have guessed more than 100,000. Heaviest concentration is in the 53,000 bracket (109 guesses) and the 54,000 bracket (128 guesses).

The contest is open to everyone—one guess to a person. To qualify for the \$25 first prize, \$10 second prize and \$5 third prize, guesses must be in The Statesman office before midnight Saturday, April 15.

You can use the form on page 2 today, or write your guess on any piece of paper.

Weather Stops Hunt for Plane Chinese Down Russian Fighter Pilot's Nativity Withheld

'Worldless' Man Requests Asylum

The "man without a country" had nothing on a visitor who called on Gov. Douglas McKay Wednesday.

Hugo Visnapu, a former Estonian, can't even call the world his home. He may have to settle for Mars, Mercury or a flying saucer.

Visnapu is a displaced person who is visiting Willamina, now the home of another former Estonian, Linda Sider, whom he plans to marry if he can just find a country in which to live.

Briefly, Visnapu was in a displaced persons camp in Germany two years ago. The government of Eire called him to that country for advice in the field of plastics in which he is an expert.

By July 16 he is supposed to return to Germany but intervening changes in displaced persons laws now prohibit this move.

He is in the United States on a temporary visa which expires May 16. On that day he must leave this country.

Where will he go? He doesn't know. He asked McKay for advice. The governor said he would notify the Oregon congressional delegation of his dilemma and ask for help.

Crash of Superfort Claims Lives of 13

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., April 12—(AP)—A B-29 superfortress plowed straight into a mountain instead of turning and killed 13 airmen near here last night.

The ship cracked up in a highly secret area of Sandia base, which is engaged in atomic and other special weapons work. Result: a tight security cloak on most details of the tragedy.

All aboard the four-engine bomber died in the fiery explosion which followed almost instantly. Towering flames were visible 17 miles distant in downtown Albuquerque for more than two hours. The bodies were burned beyond recognition.

Plane and men were from the strategic air command's 508th bomb wing, stationed at Walker base outside Roswell, N. M. They had landed at Kirtland base here and refueled on what was officially labeled a navigation training flight.

Authorities declined to amplify that description of the mission. The superfort took off eastward toward the Manzano mountains from a runway more than 10,000 feet long. Kirtland authorities said they were unable to explain why it did not execute a 90-degree bank to avoid the rocky crest, as is prescribed for all craft operating from the field.

None of the crewmen was from the Pacific northwest.

FEP Sidestep Flayed by Taft

WASHINGTON, April 12—(AP)—Immediate senate consideration of fair employment practices legislation was demanded today by republican leaders.

Senator Taft (R-Ohio), speaking for the senate GOP policy committee, said a democratic decision yesterday to postpone action on FEPC "throws doubt on the good faith of the majority in the whole civil rights program."

He told reporters that policy committee members feel that the delay was "inspired by democratic political considerations to postpone any action until southern primaries are largely out of the way."

This was denied yesterday by Democratic Leader Lucas of Illinois. He said President Truman felt it was more important to give right-of-way at this time to foreign aid legislation.

Soviets Criticize Search

By Ole Arafast COPENHAGEN, Denmark, April 12—(AP)—Flitters hunting life rafts from a missing U. S. Navy spotted yellow objects and an oil slick on the squall-flecked Baltic sea today, but a concerted search of the area ended with negative results.

At least one of the yellow objects turned out to be a three-foot-long fish storage box used by Baltic fishermen.

Bad weather interrupted the quest tonight. The search or more of air crews planned to take off again at dawn in the search for traces of the plane, a four-engine privateer that vanished with its 10-man crew Saturday on a flight from Wiesbaden, Germany to Copenhagen.

The hunt drew newspaper criticism in Soviet Russia, which protested yesterday that a U. S. bomber of the B-29 type exchanged shots with a Soviet fighter over Latvia Saturday and then headed toward the Baltic. The theme was that the search was just an excuse to conduct aerial maneuvers off Soviet territory.

American officials have indicated a belief the Russians might be referring to the privateer, which resembles a B-29 in profile. But they said it was unarmed, that a flight to Latvia would have been more than 300 miles off its Wiesbaden-Copenhagen course and that it was under instructions to stay away from Soviet territory.

The formal American answer to the Russian protest is still awaited.

U. S. air force officials were advised B-17 search plane spotted four yellow objects. Navy escape equipment is colored yellow to give its high visibility against dark seas.

The pilot referred to the objects as "debris" after he landed, but said one could have been a life raft.

"Just before I set course for Copenhagen," he said, "a Danish minesweeper reached the spot and picked up some of what I thought was debris. The Danes reported by radio that the first thing they picked up was a wooden box, used by fishermen for storing fish. What happened after then, I don't know."

A Danish pilot expressed belief the American searchers might have been misled by a buoy marking the deep sea burial ground of thousands of tons of mustard gas the Russians dumped in the Baltic last year.

The discovery of the fish box raised the question whether all the other objects sighted might have come from fishing boats. Optimism lowered at U. S. air force headquarters in Wiesbaden.

Year Precipitation Tops Mean in City

Even if it didn't rain another drop from now to September 1, the 1949-50 season could be considered a wetter than usual one.

First Quarter Business on Uptrend; Industrial Expansion Slackens Pace

WASHINGTON, April 12—(AP)—The council's monthly report to congress, "Economic Indicators," noted a March drop of 551,000 in the number of jobseekers but said the improvement was "seasonal."

Production of all goods and services reached an annual rate of \$258,000,000,000 in the first quarter, up nearly \$3,000,000,000 from late last year but not yet back to the level of a year ago when the skid began.

A sharp rise in consumer's spendable income, or earnings after taxes, was attributed largely to the \$2,800,000,000 GI life insurance refund—most of which, the council said, "was not spent in the first quarter."

Consumer spending rose to an all-time peak rate of \$181,000,000,000 a year. This represented a modest gain of \$1,200,000,000 for the quarter, and indicated that most veterans were spending their refund checks prudently.

Next Tuesday, April 18, is the Final Day for Registration; Make Sure You Can Vote