

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"

From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher

Entered at the postoffice at Salem, Oregon, as second class matter under act of congress March 3, 1879. Published every morning. Business office 215 S. Commercial, Salem, Oregon. Telephone 2-2441.

## Looking Over the Baltic Coast

American authorities haven't admitted it but it is probably true that our navy Privateer plane which the Russians shot down over the Baltic sea was engaged in reconnaissance. That wouldn't give Russia any license to shoot down the plane, but Russia doesn't wait for any "license." To the Kremlin the Baltic is a Russian millpond, with no trespassers allowed. The other day a Russian minesweeper chased a Swedish fishing vessel home across the Baltic when it came within 24 miles of the Russian-controlled coast. The conclusion that the Privateer plane was doing observation work is drawn from the fact that it was far "off course" when it got in the vicinity of Latvia. Our officials said it was making a "routine" training flight from Wiesbaden to Copenhagen. Now, Wiesbaden is in western Germany, near the Rhine, and the Latvian coast is several hundred miles east of Copenhagen. The plane would not have been cruising so far "off course" without orders and without a purpose. We may assume that the plane had optical instruments and photographic equipment so that it could from a great height make accurate observation of what was going on along the Russian-held coast. This is just part of the game of intelligence in which each nation tries to get all the facts it can about a possible enemy. It violates no international law.

Even if the American plane was on this mission the Russians had no right to shoot it down. The report that the Privateer fired on Russian fighter planes is utterly silly. It was reported as unarmed, and its principal objective would have been to get away from the Russians. It did—at the cost of ten lives—when it sank into the sea. Reports have come in of sighting of submarines off our own Pacific coast. When the reports were published our military authorities said any submarine could operate outside the three-mile limit, that if a strange sub were found within territorial waters our naval vessels could lead it into ports; but there was no suggestion that it would be fired on without its own belligerent act. The Russians acted otherwise. They shot our plane down and then manufactured the report of the latter's shooting first to justify their own violation of international law.

We'll get no immediate satisfaction from the Russians who have already decorated their plane crew. But we can make an entry in our own books of account as a Russian debt. Maybe some day there will be a Russian government with a sense of international responsibility. Then we will not need to be spying along its borders.

## Flying Saucers? No!

Spring is here and flying saucers are on the wing.

Comes a TWA pilot who says that an object glowing cherry red came alongside his plane on flight near South Bend, Ind. and five minutes later, traveling at a speed of about 400 miles an hour, disappeared. The pilot rated it as a mechanical device and not a visitor from Mars.

Then there was the "What is it?" photograph published in The Statesman ten days ago, taken on the Oregon coast, and showing a blimp-like object on the skyline. It was published "for what it was worth" with no attempt to fix its identity.

Other reports have come in of weird objects loose in the sky. The cumulative effect is to convince many people who have seen none of the wonders themselves that "there must be some-

thing to this flying saucer business."

We remain wholly unconvinced. Our own military officials have stated repeatedly that they are not experimenting with any such devices. Other country is so well advanced in aeronautics as to turn them out and be able to fly great distances to visit our continent.

Finally, any such visitants either terrestrial or celestial would most assuredly at some time make a landing or come within range of positive identification. We had physical evidence of the Japanese paper balloons because they landed here, and some were caught intact. When they drag in the "corpus delicti" of a flying saucer, then we shall be ready to admit their reality.

Then what are these sights in the sky? Some of them are planes (like the B-50 which cruised over Vancouver, B.C. and got residents there all excited as it dodged in and out of clouds). Some are weather balloons tossed about in the wind currents. Some may be birds in flight. Some may be optical illusions.

This is a case where it isn't safe to trust one's own eyes. Just wait until you can feel and handle a captured saucer before crediting reports of their existence.

## Yamhill to Vote on Road Bonds

Voters of Yamhill county will pass on a proposal to issue \$1,750,000 in road bonds at the primary election. This is the first try of counties to finance road improvements by bonds in many years. Between the wars, most of the counties sold road bonds in order to accelerate the highway construction program. Then they turned to tap state highway revenues, paid off their bonds and remained on a cash basis. The pressures for modernization are such that a turn to bonding is seriously considered in many counties, with Yamhill the first to test voter sentiment. Our opinion is that not many counties will issue road bonds. The pay-as-you-go idea has become quite thoroughly imbedded in voter minds.

The selection of Mrs. Henry Roe Cloud of West Linn as the American Mother of 1950 should excite real pride among Oregonians. Mrs. Roe Cloud is well known over the state both for her association with her late husband, long a responsible official with the Indian service, and also for her own work in church and club activities. She is the mother of four daughters who now have homes of their own. She is the first Indian woman to be given this distinction, so she surely can qualify as an "American."

It won't be long now—until we have the head count for Salem, for Oregon and for the USA. Taking the decennial census is nearly completed and the summaries should be available soon. So ingrained is our ambition for size that no community will be satisfied unless it shows substantial gains over 1940. Salem surely will be disappointed in this respect, though the numbers may not be quite as high as the boomers predict.

The body of Tommy Pickett was found in the mill stream at Corvallis at about the spot where his wet cocker spaniel had led his searching family when he disappeared. The dog evidently had plunged into the water after the boy fell in but was unable to rescue him. A dog's fidelity to his master is one of the touching things in life.

"Nothing but the truth" gets strangely bent in these congressional investigations.

## Lots of Bumbling in Washington Can't Be Blamed On Congress; And It's Still Hurting Asia 'Cause'

By Stewart Alsop

WASHINGTON, April 29—In many quarters of this administration, it is fashionable to blame Congress for the failures of American foreign policy. Certainly Congress is far from blameless. But the fate of the Griffin plan, for meeting the Communist threat in Indo-China, neatly illustrates how much bumbling can go on with no help from Congress at all.

Months after it became obvious to the meaneast intelligence that Indo-China—the key to all Southeast Asia—was in immediate danger of following China into the Soviet empire, an economic mission under the leadership of the able Robert A. Griffin was sent to the country to see what could be done. In Indo-China, Griffin and his team of experts drew up a plan and cabled its rough outlines to Washington.

The heart of this plan was speed. Already precious months and years had been lost. If something was not done very soon, what resistance remained to the great wave of Soviet power sweeping through Asia would be dissipated. Something must be done, and could be, done immediately. The first phase of the Griffin plan called for the immediate dispatch to Indo-China of planes bearing qualified medical experts and the latest medical supplies. Medical stations were then to be established wherever possible in Indo-China, to treat diseases left untreated for years.

The second phase, to follow as soon as possible on the first, was to be an extensive program of road improvement and reclamation, involving agricultural ex-

perts and all sorts of agricultural equipment, from tractors to DDT. The third phase was to be military—planes, electronic equipment, small craft, and so on, for the French troops, and especially for the newly formed army of the anti-Communist emperor, Bao Dai.

No vast expenditures are anticipated in this plan—to get the program under way, only \$1,000,000, and for the first year, no more than \$15,000,000 or \$20,000,000, are required. Moreover, there is no question of going begging to Congress—the administration now has available \$75,000,000 appropriated last year by Congress for just this sort of purpose. All that is needed to put the Griffin plan into action is the signature of the president.

Yet any one familiar with the ways of the American government could have predicted what has now happened. First, the plan had to be "processed" through the state department. The inevitable hesitations were expressed by the Far Eastern division. After some weeks, the plan filtered to the top, and obtained the approval of Secretary of State Dean Acheson.

Then there was trouble with the Pentagon. Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson objected—he had testified before Congress that the \$75,000,000 fund would be used only for military purposes. Finally, Johnson agreed to a formula whereby he expressed compliance without approval, and the plan moved on to the Budget bureau.

Immediately doubts were expressed by the cautious men in the budget bureau. How would such and such items of expenditure be justified to Congress? What future commitments were involved? With such difficulties duly noted, the papers embodying the plan (now, presumably, yellowing with age) were sent to the White House. From the White House, they eventually

came back to the budget bureau, where they now rest, no doubt, on some harassed official's desk. In the meantime, the weeks are passing, and the time when any action in Indo-China can succeed is passing with them.

The plan might or might not achieve its object. Certainly there is no easy way of dealing with the situation in Indo-China. The pudgy emperor, Bao Dai, is a long way from gaining popular support. The French are stubbornly making his position more hopeless by such idiotic gestures, for example, as refusing to allow him to occupy the imperial palace in Saigon—the palace is reserved for French officials. In their dealing with this government the French are also displaying symptoms of neurosis. For example, they have skittishly refused to accept planes, of the same model used in Greece, on the grounds that they are obsolete, and thus somehow insulting to French pride.

Yet however great the difficulties, the point is that what is at stake in Indo-China is the future of all Asia. And while the papers embodying the Griffin plan have been trickling around from one government office to another, Hainan has fallen, and the leader of the communist guerrillas, Ho Chi Minh, has begun to get regular supplies from his Chinese comrades.

Under such circumstances, whatever its weaknesses, the Griffin plan is a great deal better than nothing at all. And from speech making and mission sending, nothing at all is precisely what the United States has accomplished in Southeast Asia. If this sort of elephantine bumbling is really the best response the United States government is capable of making to the tough, ruthless Soviet drive for power in Asia, Asia is as good as lost.

(Copyright, 1950, New York Herald Tribune, Inc.)

## VOICES OF AMERICA



## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

by Chiang Kai-shek and the crew around him, that they had already been rejected by their own people, and that if America deemed it vital to its own safety to keep the communists at bay it would have to do so by its own armed force.

No responsible leaders were ready to use American troops in a Chinese civil war. And there is not the slightest assurance that if we had poured in more billions to aid Chiang it would have done more than postpone the nationalist collapse, and maybe not that because our equipment and munitions were flowing right through to the communists.

So it would seem that our diplomatic failure in China was not due to pro-communists in the state department as much as to pro-nationalists in the administration and in Congress who persisted in backing Chiang when his failure as a military leader and an internal administrator was apparent.

The real question now is not the fixing of responsibility for past defeat but rather how can the United States recover its ground in China. The most lucid analysis of the current situation and most reasonable prognosis for the future I have seen are contained in the Peffer article, "China in the Long Haul." Peffer poses three queries: 1st, Can the communists in China bring about political stability and better economic security for the masses in China? 2nd, Can the Chinese communists convert the Chinese people to communist thinking and practice? 3rd, Will China become a mere political appendage of Russia, which is, of course, the real fear of Americans? This last is for us the most important. As Peffer says, the United States would be helped, not hurt, by a prosperous China, and whether the Chinese take up with Marxian dialectics is not of great significance to us. We surely would be worried if Russia could add China's hundreds of millions of people to its own aggressive establishment.

China's future economic health depends, says Peffer, on industrialization and that will require outside capital, available in volume only from the United States. The communists will push through agrarian reforms, but Peffer gives them only an "even chance" to expand their industry in time to avert disaster. Presently the Chinese conditions are very bad because of famine and the reduction of industrial production for lack of imports.

As for adopting Marxian theory as credo, Peffer is quite skeptical. Chinese philosophy is pragmatic and humanistic rather than rigid and abstract, and he doubts if communist dialectic will sink very deep in China. And Peffer is quite positive that China will remain China. He cites three grounds of doubt that China will become a Russian satellite—"its history, its psychology, its experience in world affairs." Also, there is the ingrained distrust of all white powers.

Not like congressional critics of Secretary Acheson, Peffer is not clamoring for a new "China Policy." He thinks we shall continue to pay a price "for the wrong course we followed for four years," and will simply have to wait out the interval hoping that the Russians will act as they have in Europe and overplay their hand.

His conclusion is comforting

## Comes the Dawn

Wild pilots and flying saucers do not cause as many headaches at Salem municipal airport as does other wildlife there, according to Manager Charles Barclay. Barclay says he has been spending a great deal of his time lately chasing bulls, dogs, Chinese pheasants, ducks, blackbirds, pigeons and even muskrats from the flying field.

"With a slaughter house on one side of the field, a dog pound on the other and a game preserve in the middle, pilots have other things to worry about besides crosswinds on landings," stated Barclay. "Just last week a bull got loose, ran onto the field and had to be asked to leave."

Barclay, no mean man with a bull, says he is getting tired of this bull business. It has happened before. Even gophers are undermining the field with their little mounds—the man who keeps the lawns out there carries a gun with him in case he catches one of the gophers gophering.

During the hunting season, hunters chase the pheasants onto the field and Barclay must chase the hunters away because the field is city property. When a small plane hits a pheasant in mid-flight it instantly transforms the bird into pheasantburger and can smash the ship—besides, it's illegal to hunt pheasants with a plane.

Muskrats live in the airport ditch and cause considerable damage. Pigeons fly into the hangars and—well—plane owners don't like them. A flock of blackbirds once sat outside the control tower and made such a racket the tower operator could hardly hear himself answering calls on flying saucers.

Ducks, too, add to Barclay's worries. They cause quite a bit of confusion as they streak across the path of an incoming plane. Besides that, says Barclay, the ducks refuse to recognize tower signals when they circle to land and lots of times land in the wrong runway.

Another animal which keeps Barclay up nights are the Wolves. They come out in their jolopies on nice nights, usually accompanied by a female wolf, turn on their radios and settle down for an evening of intellectual conversation. Barclay says he and the airport hands usually wait until the Wolves become thoroughly engrossed in whatever they are doing—and then turn on a big spotlight.

"Come to think of it, this job IS interesting," added Barclay.

## Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers  
STAR MONEY, by Kathleen Winsor (Appleton-Century-Crofts; \$3)

Perhaps the first thing to note about Miss Winsor's second novel is a number of coincidences: 1. Miss Winsor is reputedly beautiful, and so is Shireen Delaney, heroine of "Star Money." 2. Miss Winsor wrote a tremendously successful first novel, "Forever Amber" was set in the Shireen, "The Falcon," with a

to those who have feared an early invasion of Asian hordes:

"Meanwhile, no disaster hangs over us. There has been a ludicrous amount of sensational melodrama about the imminent menace that hangs over us with the communist gains in Asia, the menace of Red Asian millions arising in wrath and lust for conquest to walk the waters of the Pacific and storm the cliffs of San Francisco. This is nonsense. It will take years, decades, even, for Russia to transmute the undernourished, untrained masses of Asia and the impoverished, technologically primitive economies of the various Asia lands into military power at its disposal against a country as strong as America. Before that time comes, in one way or another, we shall have arrived at a decision with Russia whether by war or by accommodation or by agreement to live and let live, each in his own way. Meanwhile, there is no cause for hysteria, for spinsters' midnight alarms."

\$10,000 advance, \$250,000 movie sale and so on. 3. Amber had man trouble, and so does Shireen.

Of course, the business of coincidences can be carried too far, and the author warns us specifically that this is "in no sense autobiographical." Anyway, there are important differences between the two novels. "Forever Amber" was set in the bawdy restoration, whereas "Star Money" is laid in our times and furthermore, it has to do with something, though not much, besides sex.

Our times may not be bawdy, but they aren't so pure, either. While Shireen's husband Ed is in a lieutenant's uniform in World War I, my count is correct: Johnny Keegan, Mike, Jack MacDonald and Paul Worth, and she tries for Dallas Cavanaugh but misses. As the story opens, she lives near her husband just before he leaves for the South Pacific, and she has worked for years on the novel. About the time Ed sails, she gets an enthusiastic response from her agent, moves to New York, signs a contract, becomes rich and famous. The contrast between her dependence on Ed, at the beginning, and, at the end, his dependence on her, or her inability to blink his apparent dependence on her, furnishes a sort of unifying theme, but actually this is about a flighty, unstable, superficial woman whose success has gone to what is called her head.

## Lumber Output Logging Strike Settled at Bend At 4-Year High

PORTLAND, April 29 (AP)—A survey today indicated Pacific Northwest lumber production was at its highest peak in four years. The West Coast Lumberman's association reported douglas fir mills producing at an average rate of 250,413,000 feet a week, the highest since the postwar boom in 1946.

The douglas fir plywood industry, however, reported plywood production down slightly in recent days because of a log shortage. The rate was 46,000,000 square feet a week, compared to the all-time high of 48,500,000 recently achieved.

The trade publication Lumber Digest reported prices were edging upward with production. Demand continues heavy, the digest reported.

## FLIERS MEET SET

PENDLETON, April 29 (AP)—A tri-state fliers' meeting will be held here tomorrow, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. About 250 persons are expected in 100 planes from Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

BEND, April 29 (AP)—Settlement of a strike that had halted logging operations of the Brooks Scanlon company a few days was announced today.

Wilfred Fordham, agent for the CIO-IWA, said the woods dispute involved seniority questions for on-the-job trainees. It affected workmen at the company's logging area near Sisters and rail and truck movements to the mill. An adequate mill pond supply kept the lumber mill here going after the midweek strike.

## Safecrackers Take \$6,000

PORTLAND, April 29 (AP)—Safecrackers stacked crates in an alley to reach an open window and enter a wholesale meat firm building where \$6,000 in cash and endorsed checks were reported missing today.

Police said William Fong, one of the owners, said \$729 of the amount was cash for the week end payroll. Detectives said the strongbox had been opened by experts.

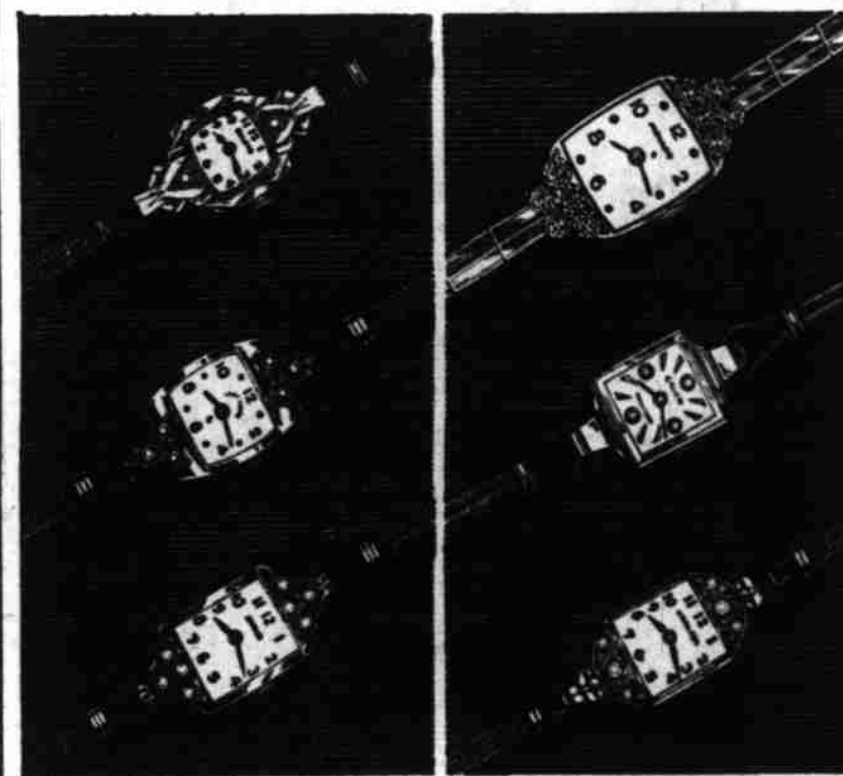
## Instructor Wanted

Woman, 33 to 45. Must have musical background. Training and experience with pre-school children desirable. Must furnish character and business references. All replies confidential.

Write Box 725, Oregon Statesman

Advice to Father's (on Mother's Day)

Give mother the Diamond watch she has always wanted!



Mother's day is a wonderful time to make her dreams come true. Has she been wishing for the luxury of a diamond wrist watch? It costs less than you think to give her the fine, gem-studded watch you want her to have. Needless to say, you may make your purchase on the terms best suited to your income, at no extra cost.

## Stevens & Son

The House of Fine Diamonds

390 State Street

Dial 4-2223

More than 1000 Oregon physicians and surgeons offer you medical and hospital protection

Three O.P.S. plans are available to employed and self-employed Oregonians and their families. Each plan is sponsored and approved by the Oregon State Medical Society. Each one gives prepaid medical and hospital protection at reasonable cost. There is a wide choice of physicians, surgeons and hospitals. Please mail the coupon for information.

## OREGON PHYSICIANS' SERVICE

Sponsored and Approved by Oregon State Medical Society

1214 S. W. SIXTH, PORTLAND 4

452 PERRY STREET, SALEM

MEADOW BUILDING, MEDFORD

CHOICE OF PLANS • WRITE FOR LITERATURE

OREGON PHYSICIANS' SERVICE: Please mail literature. I am employed or self-employed and interested in O.P.S.

Medical and hospital coverage on an individual basis

Individual basis Family basis Group basis

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to O.P.S. of Portland, Salem or Medford.