

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Ave"
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Morse Home for the Wars

In full vigor of mind and body Senator Wayne L. Morse has returned to Oregon and the political wars. He proved that in his speech before the chamber of commerce Monday. To questions brought up in this campaign to date he had the answers; and one which merits special mention in the quotation taken out of context that "Bridges was a better citizen than those who are trying to deport him." The alleged quote was taken from an old comment made when Morse was dean of the law school at the university and serving on the arbitration board covering maritime disputes. Then a bill was introduced in congress to deport Harry Bridges. That was special legislation clearly in the nature of an attainder—which is prohibited under the constitution. Morse then expressed his opposition to that method as a violation of democratic processes. And his stand was correct—so correct as constitutional lawyers in congress knew and the bill was permitted to die. Of Bridges, Morse has said that he doesn't know if he is a communist or not, but that he had been following the communist party line.

Morse is an intensely loyal American and a foe of communism. But he doesn't approve of perverting our constitution in carrying on the fight against communism. This garbled quotation about Bridges is put out for political effect, but it will not stand the test of light and truth.

It is true that Senator Morse hasn't always voted with the republican majority. We did not expect him when he was elected. Maybe he has been too much of a maverick. The important point however is that the republican majority in congress has not been convincing to the majority of the people. Given a chance in 1946 elections it dubbed its act in the 80th congress and passed into the minority. We believe the majority of Oregon republicans are more inclined to agree with Morse than they are with the senators who have tried to be party spokesmen. The primary election will be the proof.

"Them Was the Days"

Uncle Mont Hawthorne and his literary niece, Martha Ferguson McKeown of Hood River are at it again—perhaps we should say they have done it again. At any rate out today is another volume of Uncle Mont's reminiscences put down in readable style by Mrs. McKeown. This one "Them Was the Days" is not a sequel to the first book, "The Trail Led North," but a flashback to an earlier period in Uncle Mont's varied life.

"Them Was the Days" takes off in Pennsylvania where Mont was born, but moves promptly to Virginia, for Mont's father in 1865 thought the grass would be greener on a Virginia farm than in the hardscrabble hills of Pennsylvania. That was in 1865 and Virginians weren't friendly to "carpet baggers" from the north even when they came to till farms. Crops failed, so after the fashion of the time another jump was made, this time to a homestead in Nebraska.

Mont grew up, worked on the farm, worked with railroad construction crews; took a turn to the Black Hills when gold was discovered there, met Calamity Jane, drifted west to Colorado, to the coalfields of Wyoming; then a long jump to Astoria, Oregon via San Francisco. That was where the "trail north" began.

All the way Uncle Mont had adventures and experiences, few heroic or thrilling, but all human and earthy. And out of his storehouse of memory he has related them and Mrs. McKeown has set them down. What we get is Americana of a level rarely reported.

The book suffers though from the garrulousness of an old man. You listen to him spin his yarns, you know he can go on forever, and they do get boring. Another volume of Uncle Mont's memories is in prospect, completing the trilogy. There's an Uncle Mont in most every family—but only one Martha McKeown who found a literary goldmine in an old man's tales.

Salt Sea for Imperial Valley

The Imperial valley of California, well below sea level, is in no danger of being flooded with sea water from the Gulf of California. That is the answer of L. M. Lawson, of El Paso, member of the International Boundary and Water Commission, to an article by Alfred M. Cooper in the April Harper's magazine. Cooper had reported the threat that the tides of the Gulf of California would break through the silt dike which protects the rich farming region of the Imperial valley. He said the dike is receding since the Hoover dam stopped the heavy load of silt which previously had gone to build up the delta.

Lawson says "there is no evidence that the gulf is advancing toward the Salton sea in the United States, either through the Mexican valley or through the Laguna Salada." He cites comparisons of early hydrographic charts with those of today, augmented by aerial photographs to show that the mouth of the Colorado river is just where it was in 1873-75.

We'll just have to leave this one to the experts, with full confidence that if the high tides of the Gulf of California do pose a serious threat a seawall will be built as a protection. That may be the PWA project of the year 3000.

Lumber Strike Coming?

The CIO International Woodworkers have strike authorization with a May 15th date; and the AFL union is taking a strike vote to back up its demands. Meantime the employers have offered the CIO a "package" deal with small wage increase and other benefits.

The public, an innocent but interested bystander, earnestly hopes that no strike will occur. Forest industries are the backbone of our manufacturing economy. Their shutdown would cripple many communities. There are good incomes all along the line now: for workers, for employers, for concerns that serve the industry. A paralyzing strike is something we can get along without to the advantage of all concerned.

GRIN AND BEAR IT



"I want a suit for him that will wear and wear and wear..."

Comes the Dawn

We already know (from ads and commercials) that if you smoke the right brand of cigarettes you can clear up such minor disturbances as tuberculosis, jangled nerves, whooping cough and sinusitis . . . but did you know that careless fags caused over 25 per cent of the insured fires in Oregon last year? . . . This noted in summary of state fire marshal's report on insured fire losses in 1949.



Overheated and defective stoves and furnaces accounted for another 14 per cent of the blazes, electricity or defective wiring another 10 per cent, and unknown, 11 per cent . . . 75 per cent of insured losses last year were dwellings, over 5 per cent were mercantile and office buildings and autos, nearly 4 per cent involved hotels and 2 per cent were farm barns.

Improvement department . . . while many fire departments over the state were adding such equipment as pumps, substations, new station houses and trucks last year Woodburn fire-fighters bought two red flashers and two squeegees . . . in the list of fireworks-caused injuries to 43 citizens, was a person 50 years old and another 60.

One of city's finest traffic tie-ups occurred Monday morning at South Commercial and Trade streets . . . there a switch engine cuts across South Commercial at inconvenient hours while autos stand bumper to bumper . . . to make this obstacle course even more sporting Monday a highway road repair crew permitted only one-way traffic during the minutes the switching engine wasn't switching . . . this created happy mixup of engine, crewmen, motorists and pedestrians.

Sen. Wayne Morse, who is caught between two Hoovers, (Dave and Herbert) created quite a stir at Salem Chamber of Commerce when he spoke here Monday . . . jammed with lunchers and onlookers . . . path finally cleared for entrance of dignitaries, first Morse, then Gov. McKay; minutes later another path opened up for County Judge Grant Murphy, fourth time way bulldozed open by chamber secretary followed by Steve Anderson, Morse campaign chairman in this county, who had to do some heavy arguing to get rightful place at head table . . . Wayne didn't call Dave a yokel but he strongly hinted that Deadwood was anything but a live branch on the republican family tree.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

of West Germany with other nations of western Europe. The purpose is to use the productive capacity of West Germany in partnership with the west and at the same time to help restore economic independence to Germany. By doing this and giving national prestige to Germany it is believed that a natural bulwark will be erected against red aggression in Europe. The American proposal does not involve rebuilding of Germany's armament works or enrollment of an army, though some responsible leaders in the west favor this course too.

Against this policy is the old French fear of a revived Germany with a "Deutschland uber Alles" complex, led again by some ambitious Kaiser or Hitler. Secretary Acheson is expected to meet this objection with assurance of the backing of the United States against any German aggression, which previously was offered by Secretary Byrnes and Secretary Marshall. At this London conference important decisions will be announced. Signs indicate that the United States has adopted a strong policy which it is ready to offer to Europe and to implement with its means. This is not a policy of belligerence but one of containment. The administration appears

Housecleaning No Problem For Our Hank

By Henry McLemore
DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., May 8 — I have a strong back and a weak mind.

This isn't said in any spirit of bragadocio, but simply to explain why I don't suffer in the same way most husbands do during spring housecleaning.

When their wives turn their homes into a turmoil most husbands complain about the amount of physical labor they are called upon to do. They groan and moan all but drown out the sweet cackle of the robins when they are asked to move all the furniture to another place so it will look out of place.

This heavy-duty work doesn't bother me a bit. I just slip into the old leopard skin and high-laced shoes I used to wear when starring with Sells Floto and willingly throw anything from a piano to a bird cage from one side of the room to the other.

That's my back work. But spring housecleaning, in our tavern, anyway, always entails quite a bit of mental work on my part. That's when I break down and slip on the old dunce cap I used to wear when starring with Sells Floto.

Both Jean and I are savers. Not money savers, but savers of things that money couldn't buy because no one would pay a cent for them. Spring housecleaning naturally brings all these odds and ends into view, and we are forced, year after year, to decide whether to keep them or throw them away.

The decisions that come up just break me down, and often I have wished that my back could think for me. There's that chafing dish that I am going to see again in a few days. It's rockety-legged, and the alcohol burner part we've never seen, but every year, after being dusted off and talked over, it is carefully replaced in a back corner of the top shelf of the kitchen closet.

Back again, right by the chafing dish, go two brass candlesticks which don't match. Why do we keep these things? Do we think that they are antiques? No. Do we think that sometime in the near future we are going to give a midnight chafing dish supper, using a chafing dish that teeters and has no burner, and lighted by a gangrenous, mismatched pair of candlesticks? No. Our attic is alive with things that should be killed.

Uncooperative Patient Sent to State Hospital

A railroad section hand who had a head wound stitched Monday morning at a local hospital, then ripped out the stitches and collapsed two hours later, was sent

must have belonged to a doorman. It is an enormous thing that could shelter a family of ten if it could be raised. Then there is a big old wooden box holder which is a wooden Uncle Sam holding a mail box in his outstretched hands. 'Tain't pretty, but we can't bear to part with it somehow.

There are curtains which we had in our first New York apartment in the Village, and a Marquette football hood which must have given nourishment to millions of moths since we first took it out and put it away again many years ago.

But this year is going to be different. For once I am going to be a man of steel in the head as well as the back. I am tired of living in a rummage sale.

Postmasters Set Quarterly Meeting

Quarterly meeting of Marion, Polk and Yamhill county postmasters will be at 7 o'clock tonight at Salem Legion club, with Carl Black of Dallas presiding. Speaker will be Harold E. Young, Salem district postal inspector. Mrs. Dora Howard, Hauser postmaster and president of the Oregon association, plans to attend.

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U.S. at Critical Point in World History on Eve Of Ministers Meeting; Indo China Major Issue

By Joseph Aloys
LONDON, May 8—Very occasionally, there comes a moment in history when nations must either decisively meet, or finally fail to meet, the great challenges confronting them. Such a moment has now come for the United States, with the opening of the conferences of foreign ministers in London.

This moment has come because the cohesiveness and strength of the Western partnership against Soviet aggression have been, on balance, deteriorating for many months. So far, the danger is only understood by a small circle of governmental insiders. But this will soon cease to be the case if the conferences here are not successful.

For quite obvious personal and political reasons, the French and other European leaders will begin to warn their peoples of the danger that now exists, inevitably, if unjustly casting much of the blame on the United States. The Western partnership will thus begin to dissolve in a general game of "save yourself and the devil take the hindmost."

To avert this, solid serious agreements must be reached on three basic problems: First, the defense of the West in the face of active Soviet war preparation; second, the preparation of a suitable place for Germany in the Western partnership; and third, the best way to halt the Soviet offensive in Asia.

atic comintern agent, Ho Chi Minh. At present the Indo-Chinese operations are consuming half of the annual French military budget of approximately \$1,400,000,000. Moreover, all the professional army of France, and particularly all the qualified officers and non-commissioned officers, are now busy fighting Ho Chi Minh.

The need to organize a defense of the West is what has abruptly conferred critical importance on this long existing situation. The French military budget cannot be greatly increased without imperiling the remarkable French recovery made possible by the Marshall plan. And even if he should get the extra money, able War Minister Rene Pleven could not build up the forces for the defense of metropolitan France without trained cadres to serve as a foundation. Suddenly, because of Soviet war preparations, the defense of metropolitan France has come to seem more important than the defeat of Ho Chi Minh.

Politics complicate the situation further. Ho Chi Minh's great asset is not communism, but his position as the exponent of Indo-Chinese nationalism. After appalling delays, the French some months ago granted Indo-China qualified independence, setting up the government of the Emperor Bao Dai as the rival of the Ho Chi Minh movement in the nationalist business.

The new Indo-Chinese independence is unfortunately so diluted that French High Commissioner Pignon still occupies the old royal palace at Saigon. American policy makers have always insisted that Bao Dai can never win the masses from Ho Chi Minh unless he is truly sovereign. Americans on the scene have enraged the French by by-passing them in their dealing with Bao Dai. Meanwhile the French insist that their army in Indo-China will only fight for France, and not for Bao Dai.

In this tangled situation, rendered even more sour by French disappointment with the trivality of American aid to date, there is still hope. High Commissioner Pignon has just returned to Paris to advocate much more generous political conces-

sions to the Bao Dai government. First a military victory and then political concessions, is the new watchword. If the French armies receive more equipment, and especially more air power, it is thought possible to give Ho Chi Minh the kind of defeat that greatly affects bandwagon jumpers, who are always crucially important in Asia. But this depends on our action.

Concurrently, the British are deeply engaged in a struggle against communist guerrillas in Malaya, while the feeble Burmese government, with the Chinese communists on its border, is presiding over a sort of nationwide riot. If either Burma or Indo-China falls into communist hands, all the other countries of Southeast Asia will go down like a set of bowling pins in a ten strike. This, in turn, will endanger India, Japan and the Philippines.

In short, a major catastrophe is the quite possible outcome of this problem that has only third priority at London. This does not mean that the problem cannot be solved. If America really helps to build up a solid defense of Western Europe, the French can be induced, albeit reluctantly, to carry on in Indo-China. If the Western powers now organize themselves, a joint political and strategic command in Asia can be established. If the United States ceases to dodge its unavoidable responsibilities, such a new Asiatic cold war headquarters can be immensely effective.

But we must face two facts. Catastrophe cannot any longer be avoided by waffling and wabbling and spinning out formulas and appointing committees. And in order to avoid catastrophe, a great mobilization of American resources is going to be necessary. The requirements of this mobilization may be debated by the next congress. But the Western front against Soviet aggression will shortly begin to collapse, unless President Truman has already authorized Secretary Acheson to tackle cold war problems, here and now, in London, on the practical principle that resources will be employed when, where and as they may be required.

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Better English

By D. C. Williams

BETTER ENGLISH . . . 11 1/2 . . . ed

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "He has already advised me that he has received the book."

2. What is the correct pronunciation of "roue"?

3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Quadraped, quagmire, quadrille, quixotic.

4. What does the word "inviolable" mean?

5. What is a word beginning with "r" that means "wearisome"?

ANSWERS

1. Say, "He has already informed me." 2. Pronounce roo-a, oo as in moon, a as in day, accent second syllable. 3. Quadruped. 4. That must not or cannot be violated. (Accent follows the last i). "We must obey these inviolate laws." 5. Irskome.

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