

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher

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Who Are Poor and Why?

Writers in current issues of two magazines take a look at incomes and set down quite differing observations. Robert L. Heilbroner in Harper's tells "Who are the American Poor?" while the United States News reads statistics from the same source and finds "Low-Income Families Are Fewer." It seems to be all just a matter of selection and emphasis.

The News for instance reports that in 1941 83.5 per cent of U. S. families had incomes under \$3000 and now only 45.6 per cent belong in that category. Heilbroner sets it down in numbers and reports that 17,550,000 families and 7,170,000 individuals or a total of 36,080,000 persons were in the \$3000 and under bracket. And that is a lot of people.

"According to the News one family in three has an income of from \$3000 to \$5000 a year while before the war only one family out of eight was in that group. In 1941 only 4.5 per cent of families had incomes of \$5000 and over; now 20.7 per cent. Heilbroner looks at the \$212 billion reported as the national income for 1948 and then worries over its unequal division: "What is disturbing is not that there is poverty in America—everyone with eyes to see knows that for himself. The provoking fact is that there is so much poverty, so much marginal living amidst so much plenty. One child in five lives in the heap of families in the bottom two layers of the nation's pile of incomes; something like five elderly persons out of ten scripp along on a level well below the needs, not to say the rights, of the aged. Out of 140-odd million Americans on the march thirty million have fallen out of step; in fact, fifteen million have dropped out of the parade altogether."

Who are among the poor the writer is talking about? He lists the rural poor, sharecroppers, farmhands; the aged; negroes; broken families; disabled and the great group of marginal workers whose lack of strength or intelligence or skill dooms them to low-paid employment. For the last he says: "It is the stubborn lack of productivity that must be remedied."

The News on the other hand thinks the situation is not as bad as the dollar figures might imply. Many in the low income group "live on farms where they grow some food and pay low cash rent, if any." And dwellers in small towns need less to live on than those residing in cities.

The Harper's writer calls for growth to provide another ten million jobs (at good pay). But even with growth in numbers of people and of jobs there still will be those at the bottom of the heap, no matter how low the pile is. As in Christ's day we still have the poor with us and they will be here for an indefinite time, for poverty and riches are relative terms after all. Today's poverty was considered comfortable living in former years.

All studies based on income figures are of limited value, for the purchasing power of money must be taken into consideration: For the great majority of society real incomes have risen, and the standard of living is higher. It isn't just the wealthy classes who are buying automobiles, refrigerators, radios, air conditioning units. Even in the south the familiar sight of the negro mammy doing the wash with tub

and board is giving place to the sight of a white washing-machine parked on the porch!

Names out of the Orient

Are you puzzled over the words Viet Nam and Viet Minh which pop up in the news out of Asia quite regularly? Viet Nam or Vietnam as it is printed in the far east is the original name of the coastal section of what we have known as French Indo-China. It comprises the former divisions of Tongkin, Annam and Cochinchina, but does not embrace Laos in the interior and Cambodia in the south on the Gulf of Siam. The name means "land of the south."

Viet Minh or Vietnamh is the name of the revolutionary party led by the communist Ho Chi Minh. The name means "league for the independence of Vietnam." The government of Vietnam is headed by the native Bao Dai, who is sometimes referred to as the puppet of the French.

Victory of the Vietminh party over Bao Dai would result in a communist setup there, which would expose Siam and Malay states farther south. Bao Dai is sustained largely by a French army assisted by colonial troops. This draws the resentment of many natives who protest colonialism and imperialism. That is what makes American backing of the French and Bao Dai a major risk when it comes to regaining prestige in the orient.

A friend of ours who is interested in the liquor business on the consumer end had the following comment about the Oregon Liquor Commission's recent price reduction: "Sure, they cut a lot of prices from Outrageous to Outlandish, and on some brands down to Exorbitant. They'll have to make several cuts like that before as urged by domestic producers and coal interests it would have shut off considerable oil

Budget and treasury experts come up with a finding that the deficiency in the current fiscal year will be \$1,400,000,000 less than the five and a half billion previously counted on. What a mistake to disclose the figures before congress adjourns. By congressional reasoning that gives another billion and a half to spend on dredging Monkey Run or diking Goose Hollow.

In address before Lutherans President Truman asked for the prayers of all religious forces of the nation. In his messages to congress he asks for arms to bolster defenses against communism. In other words he follows the counsel of Oliver Cromwell, Trust in God, my boys and keep your powder dry.

Sidney Larkins, the steeplejack, (not to be confused with Sidney Cooper the garbage truck driver) has been honored by King George with the decoration of the Order of the British Empire. In Labor Britain steeplejacks rate higher than steeplechasers.

The Paris police union told the perfect of police that if police didn't get any pay raises pronto they would quit giving out tickets for parking and driving violations. Now there's an idea American motorists might encourage to spread.

Niggardly Defense Spending Called Suicidal; Peak of Russ Power Foreseen for 1953-1954

By Joseph Alsop

PARIS, June 9—(AP)—This is a time for greatness in America. Soviet war preparations, it is now officially acknowledged, will reach their climax in 1953-'54. Only American resources, only American leadership can rebuild the defenses of the West in the time that remains. Wisdom will be needed, as well as courage and self denial, if the great job is to be done.

Wisdom will be especially needed, because we can only protect ourselves by helping others to protect themselves. There is one single, predominant danger among all the varied menaces of these perilous times. This danger is the existence of a virtual military vacuum in Western Europe, which by jowl with rapidly growing Soviet power. The most pressing task is to fill this vacuum.

The best way to understand the heaviness of American responsibility is simply to examine what must be done in practical terms. Beginning at the beginning, something like 40 modern, powerful divisions are called for to provide a Western European ground defense. Hardly more than four or five combat-worthy divisions are available today. And the expense of buying hardware for a new division (omitting the extras customary in America) is somewhere between \$100,000,000 and \$225,000,000, depending on the type of division desired.

Thus the bill for equipping ground forces will be from \$6,000,000,000 to \$13,000,000,000. Not even such vague estimates are available of the cost of the radar devices, fighter and other aircraft, anti-aircraft weapons including guided missiles, and all the other weapons that will be required to give Western Europe both a strong air defense and strong air power to support the ground forces. But here again is another bill for at least \$6,000,-

000,000 to \$8,000,000,000, if not for considerably more. In addition to these two main bills for hardware, there will also be substantial bills for anti-submarine equipment; for building bases and installations of all kinds, including additional forward bases for our strategic air power; and for recruiting, training and maintaining additional manpower.

Until the London meeting of foreign ministers, it had been planned to spread all these bills and all this effort over ten years. The politicians, deluding themselves as well as their peoples, tried very hard to believe that this was safe. At London, however, the bleak fact was finally faced, that the time of danger will begin in 1953-'54.

It will take a minimum of four years to build a solid Western defense, even with the greatest efforts. Two previous years have been wasted in the fakery of which Secretary of Defense Louis A. Johnson is eminent practitioner. We shall, therefore, have to accept a period of especially grave risk between the completion of Soviet war preparation in 1953-'54, and the completion of our own re-armament in 1954-'55.

To work to a time schedule shorter than four years will be self-defeating. To accept a longer time schedule will be suicidal. Besides the time schedule, annual costs will also be affected by the economies of weapons standardization, of mass production and of the suppression of existing but non-essential forces. But even if the greatest economy is practiced, the defense expenditure of the Western allies is going to have to be increased by \$3,500,000,000 to \$5,000,000,000 a year for four years. Again, to spend more will be self-defeating; to spend less will be suicidal. And these sums will do the job.

Unfortunately, no such sums can be extracted from the economies of our allies, which are just recovering from post-war prostration. Thus, the first essential is for America to make an additional defense contribution of from \$2,000,000,000 to \$3,500,000,000. This should in turn en-

courage our allies to increase their contributions also, to the extent that they can. Perhaps another \$1,000,000,000 to \$1,500,000,000 can be found for defense on this side of the Atlantic without causing really dangerous dislocations.

This is only the first part of our responsibility, however. We have also been refusing to exercise the needed leadership, because we have feared further calls upon our resources. This was, of course, the real reason for the refusal of the Anglo-French request for an American general to replace Field Marshal Montgomery in command of Western union. Because of our attitude, there has been no central staff, no one command, no one commander. Hence, even the long-labored-over Western defense plans contain incredible anomalies.

The program so loudly acclaimed at The Hague, for example, fantastically included a requirement for \$500,000,000 a year of additional outlays on the French navy, which ought certainly to be reduced. At the same time, no hard decision was taken at The Hague to place the Western defense line on the eastern border of Western Germany, which is the only possible place for it.

These anomalies must be eliminated. Sound plans must be made. The whole great task of shaping a collective defense, making weapons and training men must be pushed forward with all speed. To do all this, the most positive American leadership is absolutely essential, in the frank opinion of every European leader.

In short, almost everything is to be done, and a great deal of what is to be done must be done by the United States. A time when greatness is thus demanded of a nation is always an uncomfortable time. But we can perhaps console ourselves with the thought that another kind of time will be infinitely more uncomfortable. This will be the time after the total catastrophe that will result from American feebleness and folly.

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BREAK FOR THE "KP" DETAIL



The Safety Valve

DEFENDS ZONE CHANGE

To the Editor:

As a general rule I find myself in full accord with the policies expressed by you in the Statesman. I must make a strong exception, however, to your recent browbeating of the Salem city council through your own and guest editorials in the matter of Salem's marble service station. The council took the only just action possible for them to take. I have no personal interest in having a station built there or in keeping one from being built there only in as much as it affects the basic principles of our democracy.

The property in question having once been valuable residential property had had its value in its present zoning destroyed by natural changes in the district including the encroachment of the capitol zone. Being adjacent, though, to business property, it had acquired through precedent a legitimate potential value as business property. To arbitrarily through legislative measures curtail the natural trend of property values is in effect if not in fact the confiscation of property and a grave injustice to individual citizens.

This is not the only request of its kind the capitol planning commission has made to the Salem city council.

If we the people of the state of Oregon through our duly elected and appointed representatives wish to restrict the use of property in a manner which will cause its devaluation, let us purchase it, or in some other manner give fair compensation for it. That is the working of democracy, where the wishes of the individual or minority give way to the will of the majority.

On the other hand the principle advocated by this paper and numerous others throughout the state appears to be that the rights of the individual become subservient to the desires of the majority or their representatives. Not much difference in wording but all the difference in the world in meaning, for it is

on this principle dictatorships are built.

The Salem city council is elected to protect the rights of the citizens of Salem individually and collectively and not to be the cats paw to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for the state of Oregon, a tough and quite evidently thankless job, which they are doing in a very conscientious manner.

Lloyd B. McCain
985 Academy St.

(Editor's Note — The property in question was put in the residential zone when the original zoning of the city was made. Keeping it in that zone deprives the owner of nothing but the chance of speculative profits if the council permits commercial use of the property. The contributor's logic would make the city topsy-turvy — (like Topsy, "just grewed") — and property could be used for what "just came naturally."

Cut Political Ad Rate To Reduce Expenses

To the Editor:

I understand you are looking for democratic methods of reducing the cost of direct primary campaigns.

On the other hand, I find that the Statesman, like most newspapers, charge about 20 per cent more for political advertising than it does for ordinary display advertising.

There are a number of things that publishers could do to reduce the costs of campaigning and increase the voters' understanding of what they are voting for. It all depends on whether the publisher considers his occupation primarily a public service, or primarily a profit-making business.

Marion Syrek, Jr.
607 N. Commercial.
(Editor's note — Advertising rates follow certain classifications. On The Statesman rate card, politics takes the same rate as business. Isn't that a correct classification?)

About Your .. Newspaper ..

Chapter 9

THAT STORY OF YOURS

By Wendell Webb

It is a complex train of operations which finally gets your story in the newspaper.

Perhaps you call in a story on the phone, telling a reporter that John Smith is having Boy Scouts of troop 112, at his home at 18969 Franciscovich street, on Thursday the 12th. The reporter checks as closely with you as he can, but he must check further.

Perhaps he finds that John Smith's name is Smith; that the Scout troop is 111; that the street number is 18869; that Thursday is not the 12th. He may make a half-dozen "phone calls if he finds an error which makes the rest of the information suspect.

Finally he writes the story. The city editor gets it. He remembers that Franciscovich is an avenue, not a street, and the reporter gets a call-down even though he's already corrected several errors. The city editor finally satisfied, the story goes to a news or copy desk editor. The latter scans it closely, changes the punctuation, perhaps; decides on the type of headline it should have; writes the headline, marks it page so-and-so "must," and puts it on the spindle to go to the composing room.

In the composing room, the story is taken to a linotype or intertype and "set up"; a proof is taken of the type and a proof-reader compares it to the original copy; perhaps the typesetters left the "o" out of Franciscovich; the story goes back for a re-set line; finally it's all corrected and placed in a page form.

If no subsequent error was made in the correction line, if the line is inserted in the right place, if the proof-reader didn't miss anything, if the make-up man matches up the right head with the right story, and if there still is room on page so-and-so, the story'll get in the paper correctly.

When it does, everyone's happy. When it doesn't. And that's just one small story.

Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "Charles says he feels kind of sick, but this here medicine should help him."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "dais" (a platform)?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Luminery, embroidery, constabulary, mercenary.
4. What does the word "raucous" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with "ing" that means "having inventive skill; clever?"

- ANSWERS
1. Say, Charles says he feels slightly ill, but this (omit here) medicine should help him."
 2. Preferred pronunciation is in two syllables, as, day-lis. 3. Luminary. 4. Raucous; disagreeably harsh; strident. (Pronounce raku-s, as in all.) "The speaker had a raucous voice." 5. Ingenious.

Improving on Nature

When God, in charting out the world, Assigned each animal its climate, I wish he'd put mosquitoes with The things that like the winter weather.

Wealth Linked To RFC-Backed Bankrupt Firm

WASHINGTON, June 3—(AP)—Senators checking into a \$400,000 reconstruction finance corporation loan to a Florida firm which later went bankrupt heard today that one of the company's directors is worth \$5,000,000 or more.

Senator Fulbright (D-Ark) chairman of a senate banking subcommittee commented that if the director was that well-to-do, he could have afforded to take the risk of financing the company "a lot better than most of us taxpayers."

The director was identified as Wiley L. Moore, sr.

RFC Examiner Charles B. Lewis said Moore owns the transportation system at Jacksonville, Fla., and the Georgia Life Insurance Co. at Atlanta, is a director of the Fulton National bank of Atlanta and has oil interests in Oklahoma and Texas.

Worth \$5 Million
"I imagine he is worth at least \$5,000,000," Lewis told the senators. He added that he had known Moore for 40 years and that the financier helped convince him of the worth of the product the company proposed to manufacture.

Under questioning by Fulbright, Lewis denied that his friendship for Moore influenced him to recommend the RFC loan to the Ribbontwriter Corporation of America, at Danville, Fla.

"But I had more confidence in it after talking to Mr. Moore, I'll say that," Lewis added. He said he just put all the facts together and reached his own conclusion.

Fulbright said that the manager of the RFC office at Jacksonville had recommended against the loan, and so had various RFC advisory committees.

Will Not Take Loss

Lewis repeatedly expressed his belief to the committee that the government will not take a loss on the loan, and called the gadget "one of the most important inventions brought out." He said he is confident the collateral will repay the loan if efforts to reorganize the company fail and the RFC takes over.

The committee questioned Lewis about Sheriff Walter T. Clark of Broward county, Fla., one of the company's vice presidents, but the RFC man did not know much about him.

Fulbright yesterday placed in the record an RFC memorandum citing reports that Clark had been mentioned as "a very close personal friend of the president." The memo, dated Aug. 26, 1949, was from Fred H. Farwell, manager of RFC's Jacksonville office, to RFC general counsel James L. Dougherty.

In Fort Lauderdale, Clark denied emphatically that the president knew anything about the loan. "Oh, no, no, no," Clark said. "I wouldn't try to do anything like that, if we could not get it on its merits."

He never discussed the loan with Mr. Truman, I doubt if he knows anything about it."

Paper's Phone Service Restored

YONKERS, N. Y., June 9—(AP)—A supreme court justice tonight ordered temporarily restored to

Peace Rose Keeps Popularity With Portland Rose Show Win

By Lillie L. Madsen

Garden Editor, The Statesman

PORTLAND, June 9—Portland's 62nd annual rose show closed tonight at 9 a.m. with a huge attendance in spite of the \$1.20 admission price charged this year. Sponsors, however, did state attendance was not so large Friday, particularly from those who did not have the \$2 script book which covered all events of the festival. Objection was voiced by many because of the admission price which, in former years has been kept at a minimum, ranging from no charge to 50 cents.

The beautiful pink-yellow-white Peace again took the sweepstakes prize, a place it has held frequently at rose shows since it was first introduced in 1945. It is recalled, following the first test of this rose, that Fred Edmunds, curator of the International Rose Test gardens, Portland, referred to it as a "must" for all Pacific Northwest gardens, and J. A. Milbrath, Rosarian from Corvallis, stated it was "the best all-around rose ever introduced."

Runner-up at the Portland show was Show Girl, a rosy pink bloom entered by Floyd Bowers of Portland. Edwin L. Betzel, Eugene, entered the sweepstakes winner. Show Girl was introduced in 1946, and Ollie Schendel, Salem, in his national report, listed it as having disease-free foliage.

Assigned Peace Rose
In the annual Nightingale of Rosaria, Dr. Harry L. Dillin, president of Linfield college and a member of the United Nations committee, was knighted and assigned Peace as his special rose.

Some of the older roses were noted the most beautiful white rose buds, winning first in their division, were Frau Carl Druskisch. At my own home, I have a bush of these my father planted more than 30 years ago. It is still

Communication Lines To Portland Airport Cut

PORTLAND, June 9—(AP)—The Portland airport and surrounding area were cut off from telephone communication today when diggers severed the telephone cable. The accident happened while crews were digging for a water district. Service was restored to some points after five hours, and to others later.

Gas Company Assures Supply For Canadians

CALGARY, June 9—(CP)—The Northwest Natural Gas company, which seeks an export permit, is prepared to guarantee that 25 per cent of pipeline capacity would be available for Alberta and British Columbia.

A. Faison Dixon of New York, president of the company, told the petroleum and natural gas conservation board hearing of plans for a pipeline to the Pacific northwest.

He said his company had negotiated with Shell oil for supplies above Calgary city requirements to be exported. Calgary would be protected with a contract which probably would provide 20,000,000 cubic feet of natural gas daily. It was expected that producers would be paid about 10 cents per 1,000 cubic feet in the field for the natural gas.

His company has proposed two routes of export, one through southern B. C., the other through the northwestern United States.

The northwest company completed the preliminary portion of its submission this morning and the hearings were adjourned until September. The other applications scheduled to be discussed this month, one by Western Transmission Ltd. and the other by Western Pipelines are expected to be adjourned to the fall.

Police Called As Body Found In East Oregon

LONG CREEK, June 9—(AP)—Coroner J. Carl Driskill said today that an elderly ranch worker whose body was found in Long Creek yesterday may have been a victim of foul play.

Clarence Willingham, 64, an employee of Long Creek Cattle company disappeared from this Grant county town three and a half weeks ago. At first his wife and children thought he was out on the range.

A search was launched after he failed to return. A 14-year-old fisherman came across the body in the creek yesterday.

Coroner Driskill ordered an investigation and an inquest, saying the death appeared to be foul play, not suicide.

the Yonkers Daily Times the telephone service that was cut off 24 hours ago.

The New York Telephone Co. cut off service to the morning newspaper after police alleged that the wires were being used for gambling purposes.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

by Lichty



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