

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Ave"
From First Statesman, March 22, 1881

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

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Published every morning, business office 315 S. Commercial, Salem, Oregon. Telephone 2-2695.
Entered at the postoffice at Salem, Oregon, as second class matter under act of congress March 3, 1879.

Train Guns on Attlee Ministry

Britain's labor government is getting a panning for holding out on the conference for unification of heavy industry of western Europe. The parliamentary opposition is training its guns on Attlee. Even the French socialist party is vexed because of the isolationist attitude shown by their brothers in power in Great Britain. And the French government is definitely displeased at the aloofness shown to what the French regard as the most constructive idea advanced in Europe since the war.

Americans are critical too. They are unfriendly to socialism to begin with, and quite hostile to the idea that it must be exported, that a socialist government can't cooperate economically with a non-socialist government. The Wall Street Journal chortles "I told you so," for it has noted all along the isolationism of British socialism, and its inability or unwillingness to cooperate because it relies on a planned economy with the government doing the planning.

It could be that opposition to the labor party decision will create the issue on which parliament will dissolve to go to the people for a fresh mandate. And this issue might be one the conservatives could ride to success. Meantime five continental nations have joined with France in a conference at Paris to conclude negotiations for an industrial pact. Western Germany had a seat at the conference table, on equal terms with other nations for the first time since the war. That in itself is a step away from the war and the world hopes, a step toward peace between these old and bitter contenders, Germany and France.

Roads and County Courts

Lane county has been having road pains, with much blame for poor county roads put on the county commissioners. The county surveyor is also by appointment of the county court the county engineer. The Eugene Register-Guard commenting on the dual arrangement, says:

"It would be very difficult to set up a separate engineering department ignoring the elected surveyor, whoever he might be. It would not be impossible but it might be very embarrassing."

Embarrassing or not eleven counties of the state have county engineers who are not the county surveyors. As listed in the last Blue Book they are: Clatsop, Douglas, Grant (no surveyor reported), Josephine, Klamath, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Tillamook, Wasco, Washington. The surveyor is an elective official. He may be a very competent surveyor and still not be competent as an engineer for road and bridge construction. The decision rests with the county court which has power to employ the engineer for road work.

Lane county did a job of housecleaning on its county court at the last election and a new court may do a better job in road administration. The responsibility for county roads rests with the county court.

Election in the Ruhr

Sunday's election in the Ruhr yielded important results. For one thing the communists took a bad beating. Only five per cent voted for the Reds against 14 per cent in the election in 1947. Allied policy is evidently gaining ground; and the antics of the Reds in Berlin and east Germany are reacting unfavorably to their cause in the west.

The other significant item was the approval

Progress in Rehabilitating Western Europe Encouraging, Though Red Danger Still Exists

By Joseph Alsop

WASHINGTON, June 21.—The choice now confronting the United States and the Western world is a choice between total defeat in the cold war, and something very close to final victory. There is a fearful danger in defeat, because the defenses of the West are not being rebuilt while the Soviet Union rebuilds. Because the danger is so great, this point has been emphasized in this final summing up of the experiences of a long journey abroad.

On the other hand, however, there is every reason why we in America should feel encouraged and even optimistic about the future, provided we have the guts and good sense to launch the needed defense effort without further delay. This is the other side of the medal, which must also be held in view.

The justification for this optimism is, very simply, what we have already accomplished. It is too easy, nowadays, not to notice how far we have come already. It is too easy to forget the summer of 1947, when crises of misery threatened every nation in Western Europe; when no Western European government possessed more than the shadow of authority; when it was overwhelmingly probable that most of the continent would be in Communist hands within twelve to eighteen months.

This was another moment when we skirted the perilous brink of total defeat in the cold war. But in 1947, we acted in time. The interim aid bill and the Marshall plan gave the Europeans the necessary margin, the necessary self-confidence, to rebuild their war-shattered economies. Now, in the summer of 1950, we can look around us, and

be sure that we have scored a brilliant success. Anyone would be a fool to say, of course, that the Marshall plan has produced final solutions of Europe's ancient problems. There are still internal political-economic problems of the utmost gravity, particularly in Western Germany and Italy. There is also the problem of the pattern of the new Europe, which is customarily but badly conveyed in the phrase, "European integration." The one great mistake that was made at the launching of the Marshall plan, was to let people hope for overnight solutions of Europe's immense, complex and immemorial problems.

The notion was silly from the first. We should not carp and complain because a federal Europe has not miraculously sprung into being. Instead, we should be delighted that the broad tendency is now good, as is shown by the superb French initiative of the Schuman-Monnet plan for a new Franco-German relationship.

It is even more important, furthermore, that life has now come back to this Western Europe that was so close to death in 1947. Indeed, to say that life has come back is the only way to describe the astonishing change, which any traveler finds in any European country, even including the most afflicted, Austria and Germany.

As with any patient returning to health, scores of symptoms, little and big, all indicate the alteration. Everything is different, from the production indices to the conversation of the people in the open-air cafes. In short, the first part of the job in Europe has been done, thus far, in a better way than could have been hoped.

This is doubly important. For this return of life in Western Europe, made possible by our first really big effort, should give us the self-confidence for the next big effort that is now demanded. And this return of life equally will permit our European

partners and allies to bear their share of the burden in this next big effort of defense.

We can of course fail to make the effort. Or we can even forget that our allies overseas are only convalescent, and destroy our whole success by pushing onto them defense burdens more heavy than they are yet ready to bear. Either way, disaster lies. On the other hand, if we now meet this challenge of the defense problem, the gain will not be merely negative and protective.

In truth, one of the two or three really fundamental political facts in Europe today—and here Eastern Europe may be included—is the vast influence of fear of the Kremlin's military power. Because of this fear, the Western European Communists, and their colleagues in the satellite areas, expect the Kremlin to win in the end. Because of this fear, the Kremlin still has the advantage of a certain bandwagon psychology, even although this has been greatly diminished by the Marshall plan's success.

Remove the fear. Create a bandwagon psychology about the success of the West. The Kremlin will then experience the worst of all misfortunes for imperialist totalitarianism—a heavy check of momentum. One cannot now foretell exactly how this kind of check of momentum would finish off the Western European Communist parties, opening the way for the creation of a healthy, independent left-wing movement. One cannot now foretell exactly how this check of momentum would influence the internal situation in the satellite area, preparing for the eventual retreat of Russia from Europe. But one can be certain that this broad kind of development will occur, if the Kremlin's momentum is indeed checked, and the new situation is then wisely exploited. And if these things happen, the cold war will have been pretty well won.

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GRIN AND BEAR IT



Tell that college survey asking what their graduates are doing, that a lot of employers are trying to find out, too.

Comes the Dawn

Yep, summer's here... we don't have to look for signs of it any more... and at least the sun was shining when the old girl hove in at 4:37 p.m. yestdy... if she wants a word of advice, let's have done with those thunderstorms which spring brang... we can't find a kind thing to say about those things.

But we can find a lot of kind words to say about those folk who helped with the Pageant. It's not their fault the clouds unloaded at the wrong time... a lot of time and effort went into that production, including that of Chairman Sidney Stevens as well as that of hundreds who get no individual recognition... looks as if this would be a ripe time to promote a civic auditorium where such events could be held without so much dependence on the weather...

Senate Prexy Bill Walsh got licked for school director in Coos Bay but no one need worry about how Bill will take it... when he was district attorney of Coos county back in the early 1930s he took a beating for re-election from Ben Flaxel who was considered a strict outsider... Flaxel had quietly rung a lot of doorbells and it paid off at the polls... did Bill take it? ... well, he's veritably assistant governor now... and besides, Johnny Nelson who beat him for the school board is a former valley man... they're hard to beat.

Maybe there's something to this mental telepathy business... word from Mrs. Robert Elstrom that she was returning from Europe arrived the same day that news reports chronicled that her mayor-husband had been baby-sat with... but she needn't (and undoubtedly didn't) give the thing another thought—the baby-sitting with her husband was done by the present governor of Kansas years ago... the guy mentioned it at this week's gov convention in West Virginia.

Incidentally, it was a wagon team, not a buckboard team, which ran away in Tuesday night's pageant... but it was an early bus which ran away from an irate subscriber who complained yesterday that she'd missed hers because it was three minutes ahead of schedule on Boone road... and since we are speaking of traffic, we stood in a pedestrian lane at Ferry and Commercial streets while 14 cars whizzed by... the 15th, with a California license, was the first to recognize its obligation to yield the right-of-way.

The Safety Valve

Pageant Experience

Shows Need of Auditorium To the Editor:

Dampened costumes and spirits of the Cherry Festival cast, after being rained out by a down-pour which lasted four hours and intermittent rains ever since, has called Salem's attention to the need for suitable auditorium facilities.

Lack of dressing rooms, together with other deficiencies have made the local talent aware of the difficulties they face when participating in such activities.

In 1908, when Salem's Elks club first put on the Cherry fair the people of that day were not acquainted with the ease and comfort of our modern-day living. The same inconveniences in 1950 can be a bit trying.

When part of the stage blows over, as it did on the night of June 20, while the narrators sit in the rain in an unsheltered booth, and the entire ballet does their best on a muddy field, it is time to consider what we mean when we say "progress." It calls to our attention all too sharply, in this recognition of Salem's development over 47 years, that they have overlooked one of the main factors in successful, modern city life. This factor being the need for a fine building where activities such as a Pageant of Progress can be staged, and eliminate the necessity of waiting until dark to enjoy the lighting effects.

The reluctance of the capital city's citizens to get behind and support such a project leads one to wonder just how much real advancement has taken place in 47 years.

Can Salem citizens long continue to close their eyes to the startling fact that they have made but scant progress when they fail to provide for themselves a place which would lure cultural activities every other city of its size enjoys? It seems a bit short-sighted to declaim the slowness of business during certain seasons when it could so easily be remedied by having something going on which would bring in the people from outlying districts. Every large city grows large because it provides for its community and edifice commensurate with its needs for

by Lichty

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

requiring four years of preparation and holding the reward of higher salaries. We should go slow on this. If requirements are made too strict girls will skip teaching to go into business or prepare for some other profession. Too great an expense also shuts out girls from poorer homes whose parents may not be able to finance four-year courses for their daughters but could sacrifice to send them for two or perhaps three years. Many and many a girl has gone to normal school and thence into teaching because the shorter course was within her financial reach.

The extra year might be required within a five-year period. That would give the young teacher a chance to accumulate some savings to attend summer school or to return to college for a year. Undoubtedly she would get more out of her extra year of training if she had had practical experience as a teacher.

With due respect to instruction in teachers' colleges both in content and in methods native talent still has much to do with the success of a teacher. If she has a knack in handling children, and an intuition in imparting knowledge she will do better than one who has had years of methods ground into her but still lacks the teaching instinct.

This is not to minimize the importance of elementary teaching. On the contrary it is of vital importance in the education of all children. The Oregon colleges of education have made real strides in teacher training, moving toward a goal of improving the quality of teachers both through closer selection of applicants for training and more thorough instruction while in training.

As we get away from the distorted conditions of wartime things will level off. More will want to teach and schools will not have to take those whose only credential is an emergency certificate. I believe that the policies Dr. Gunn has followed and recommended will prove wise as time passes.

Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "He acquired a strange disease, while living there."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "Chopin" (famous

Solitude of Monastery Touches Mac

By Henry McLemore

DAMASCUS, Syria, June 21.—I have always been most happy to leave mountain climbing to the chamols, the goat, the ibex, and people who live on mountain tops and have to climb to get home.

But today I did a bit of panting up a mountain side and was well rewarded. I started my climb at the primitive village of Malula, some 50 miles from Damascus, and finished at a tiny monastery which sits atop a peak of the Syrian Range.

The little monastery comes as close to being out of this world as anything in this world can be. The only way to reach it is to climb for hours over a trail that crosses and recrosses a swift running stream. The trail is so narrow in places that even donkeys cannot make the ascent.

The monastery, which is so old that no one knows its beginning, has no telephones, no electricity, no running water. It is the most peaceful place I have ever seen, with only the sound of the soft cry of the mountain wind about the whitewashed walls, the occasional cackle of a hen and the bleat of a goat.

The visitor is greeted by Abuna (Father) Gregorius, a gentle, shy, black-bearded man of the Greek Orthodox church. He does not ask who you are or where you came from, but his hospitality is as warm as his smile.

We reached the monastery just before lunch time and were armed with box lunches from our hotel in Damascus. But Abuna Gregorius would not hear of us eating from our boxes. We must, he told us in a quaint mixture of Arabic, French and English, have lunch

with him, and eat of the things produced there on the mountain. A bearded servant dressed in the clothes of the desert Bedouin, laid the table on a balcony that hung over a gorge 3000 feet in depth and commanded a breathtaking view of the surrounding mountains, many of them snow-capped, and the desert that lay far below. The desert was shimmering with heat, but on the balcony it was so cool that we welcomed the handwoven shawls Abuna offered us.

The meal was as good and as simple as the atmosphere. There were loaves of brown-crusted bread, baked in the stone ovens there. Goat's milk cheese with a rich and salty tang. Big bowls of apricots, plums, cherries, and nectarines. A cold roast chicken, and a garlicky green salad. And, to wash all this down, bottles of a mild, sweet, red wine from the monastery cellar.

After lunch Abuna took us on a sight-seeing tour. The sides of the mountain are dotted with giant caves, cut for a time into the solid rock. These caves are older than recorded history, but archeologists say they were used for worship of the sun and in many of them crude drawings of the sun and its rays are cut into the rock.

There was only one modern touch to the whole day. This came when we prepared to leave. Abuna went into the monastery and came out wearing a brand new pith helmet and carrying an expensive camera and tripod.

He posed us on a big rock, focused the camera, set whatever one sets for a time exposure, and, gathering up his skirts, dashed into the center of our group. Before the shutter clicked he took off his helmet, quickly patted down his hair, gave his beard a smoothing stroke, and smiled like a movie idol.

Where and when he'll get the film developed is a mystery. Thanks, Abuna, for one of the loveliest days of my life. (Distributed by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

News of Sister's Death Heard Here

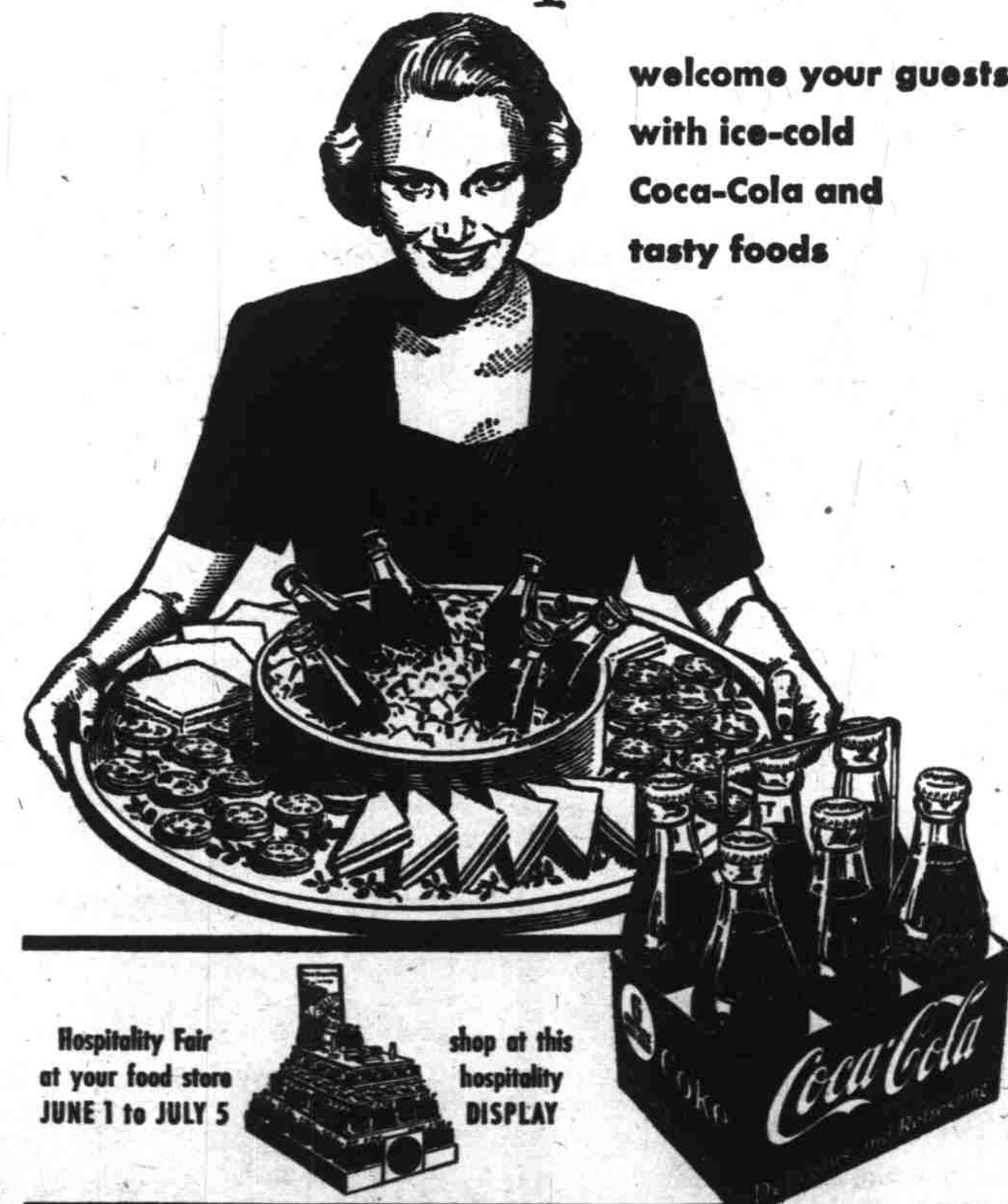
Mrs. Victor L. Withrow, 4090 Beck ave., learned Wednesday of the death of her sister, Mrs. William Roberts, in Birmingham, Ala., Tuesday.

Surviving besides Mrs. Withrow is Mrs. Roberts' mother, Mrs. Mattie Holderfield, Standing Rock, Ala.; a brother, Terrell Holderfield, LaGrange, Ga.; and another sister, Mrs. Homer H. Holladay, Birmingham, Mrs. Holderfield is reported seriously ill.

Funeral services will be held Thursday at LaGrange.

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