

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"

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## Adding to Vets' Loan Fund

In 1944 the voters of Oregon amended the constitution to establish a fund for making loans to veterans of World War II for their acquisition of farms and homes. The debt limit was fixed at three per cent of the assessed valuation of the state, and Oregon residents who served at least 90 days in the armed services during the war were declared eligible.

Under this amendment and the legislative act to put it into effect, 5,646 veterans had, up to June 30th last, borrowed from the state on first mortgages on homes or farms a total of \$22,806,239. The last legislature voted to submit an amendment to this amendment. It would raise the debt limit to four per cent of the assessed valuation and make eligible veterans from other states who resides in this state two years after his service separation and Dec. 31, 1950.

The argument presented is that these loans are secured and can be expected to be entirely self-liquidating if they are properly made and handled. Also attention is called to the fact that many veterans came to Oregon and settled here and should be made eligible to get a loan from the state fund.

In the opinion of The Statesman it is not necessary to increase the debt limit. The amount borrowed, as of June 30th last was as stated above \$22,806,239. But under the present three per cent limit the amount available on the basis of the latest report of assessed valuation is \$48,236,280. That leaves an ample margin. While we are pleased to have war veterans from other states locate in Oregon it hardly seems that they have a claim to Oregon's grants by virtue of their war service. They still have the benefits made possible by the GI bill of the federal government.

Principally because it does not seem that this change is needed The Statesman recommends Vote 304 X No.

## Transient Farm Labor

A government committee held hearings this week in Portland on the subject of migratory farm labor. It attracted far less attention than it deserved because the subject is one of real economic importance and of deep social significance. This labor is at the bottom of the scale of employables. While some of the migrants are expert and able to make a pretty good income in a year, a great number are the ones who are employed only part time, whose families all have to work to make ends meet, whose shiftlessness and vices make them a sociological problem.

Oregon witnesses were critical of the poor living facilities offered transients and their lack of employment guarantee or unemployment compensation. But some Idaho witnesses advanced rather startling proposals. One man wanted the immigration service to lay off their hunt for "wetbacks," Mexicans who enter the country illegally, at least until harvest season ends. And the president of the Idaho sugarbeet growers argued for a modification of child labor laws requiring only six or seven months of schooling for children of migrants — so they could work longer and help with the family support. For these persons labor is only a commodity to be used as long as needed and then turned adrift.

We cannot accept any such reversion to any such concepts of human labor. What must be done is to look ahead to see how conditions of these transients, and particularly the chances for their children may be bettered. Granted that the quality of the human material is often very low, still decent standards of living, of wages, of education, of health must be maintained. Those who employ labor of this type should be

particularly interested in a more constructive approach to solving their problems than by shortening the school year of the children.

## Earth Warming Up

As you drive up to Paradise park on the south side of Mount Rainier you pass the snout of Nisqually glacier. Signs point out where its terminus was in different years since its discovery and the distance from them to the present front of the ice-flow is the measure of its retreat in those periods of time. This retreat is common to all our western glaciers, and some of them, like Milk glacier on the west front of Mt. Jefferson, is only a remnant.

This would indicate that we are living in a warming-up cycle. That may be merely an interval in longer period of earth-cooling; but the evidence is that since the ice cap began retreating some ten thousand or more years ago earth temperatures are growing warmer.

Other proof is offered in the northward migration of birds and animals. Prof. Joseph J. Hickey, professor of wildlife management at the University of Wisconsin reports that cardinals, opossum, blue wing warbler and other species have extended their breeding range well to the north of the southern Iowa-New Jersey line which formerly was their boundary. European scientists also report that birds from southern Europe have been invading northern latitudes, in Iceland, Scandinavia and Greenland.

Humans though seem to shun the north. Witness in this country the migration to southern California, Texas and Florida to escape the northern winters. Canada and Alaska gain population very slowly.

How long this warm cycle will continue we do not know; but the ice cap over northern Washington (whose melt created Grand Coulee) and coal deposits in Alaska show wide swings in climate the earth has gone through in the past. Will this history ever repeat itself?

## Senate Contests

Are you interested in the outcome of contests for the U.S. senate? Here is the summary taken from reports to the New York Times of last Sunday.

NEW YORK: "Mr. Lehman, with his substantial public record behind him, and with the state's known voting tendencies considered, is better than an even choice to win." (This was written before the Hanley letter was made public which should improve Lehman's chances.)

PENNSYLVANIA: "Senator Francis J. Myer in his battle for reelection in Pennsylvania constitutes a major Fair Deal test, for he is standing on the record of the Truman administration and the democratic 81st congress . . . The odds against his election are great. Democrats have captured an off-year election in the state only once in more than a half-century. The Republicans out-register them by more than 900,000."

OHIO: "Senator Taft has improved his chances in recent weeks and is gaining slowly but steadily."

ILLINOIS: Lucas, dem. vs. Dirksen, rep. "Political observers rate the contest about even."

CALIFORNIA: Nixon vs. Mrs. Douglas. "A slight initial speculative edge for Mrs. Douglas — based largely on her personal appeal and energetic campaigning — has shifted in recent weeks as Mr. Nixon intensified his campaigning, national criticism of the administration swelled, and increasing anti-communist feeling put a premium on his record."

The last three of these races seem to be quite close, with only two weeks left for campaigning before the day of decision.

## GRIN AND BEAR IT

by Lichty



"A brilliant idea . . . leaving at the half to avoid the traffic crush . . . how do you suggest getting the car out? . . ."

## Hank Holds Record But Needs Alibi

By Henry McLemore  
DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., Oct. 20—Thumbing through an encyclopedia today I discovered that I am the holder of a world record.

In 1911 — so the encyclopedia says a Mr. John Anderson Myjo, of Troon, Scotland, when his wife was away for five days, established a new all-time mark for dirty dishes piled on the sink.

Mr. Myjo's stack of chinaware contained 238 plates, cups, saucers, etc., and was five feet six inches high and three feet two inches long.

Upon reading this I got a tape measure and measured the pile of dirty dishes that have accumulated on my sink since Jean left for New York to superintend the painting of the apartment we will occupy this fall, to select the drapes for the shoe closet, and to see to it that the shelf paper matches the door-man's cap.

I hadn't measured and counted for more than a few seconds before I knew that the record which has been so long in Scottish hands now had been brought to America.

The unwashed leaning tower of Pisa on my sink contains 301 dishes of assorted shapes and sizes and is almost half again as high and as long as that which brought fame to Mr. Myjo.

It took the Scottish husband five days to accumulate his pile. He's a piker. I have used only three days, and, if there were any more dishes left in the house, I would whip his record to a frazzle in two more days. As it is, there is only one clean dish in the house, and that is a giant soup tureen that, given a springboard, would look at home in the backyard of any Hollywood star's home.

Jean will be back tomorrow and I know her well enough to know that, as proud as she'll be to have me holder of a world record, I'd better have those dishes washed and put away.

Frankly, I don't know how to go about the task. The dishes are so delicately balanced, that I fear to bring in the garden hose and turn it on them. The chances are very great that such a measure would result in a catastrophe which would make the noise of Santa's reindeer on the roof sound like the explosion of a soap bubble in Grand Canyon.

What I think I'll do is throw them away and tell Jean that a vicious gang of burglars, specializing in china, and china alone, has been terrorizing the neighborhood and made off with nearly all the dishes in town.

Yes, that's what I'll do, I'll tell her that I was sitting on the couch about midnight, reading an unexpurgated copy of Little Lord Fauntleroy, when I felt a hand at my throat, a sack over my head and a menacing demand to open the wall safe and hand over the china.

Then, locked in the refrigerator, and helpless to lift anything heavier than an ice cube, I had to listen to the gang make away with every blessed plate we own. A convincing story, even if I do say so myself. One that should bring tears to her eyes and a bump on my head.

But I have no idea how to explain the gas stove being half burned up. There isn't a chance of her falling for a story about a gang which has been terrorizing the neighborhood by going about turning on the burners and letting them burn. That's what I did, but I didn't mean to. It seems that right in the middle of cooking myself a sumptuous one-course dinner of a boiled hot dog, an emergency call came through to me asking if I could play a little poker, and rather than let down my friends I rushed right out.

When I finally returned, the stove was better done than the hot dog.

Well, they say women are understanding. Heaven help me if they're not. Distributed by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.

## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page one.)

by legislators, but the latter must write a letter of recommendation.

Holding up appropriation bills until the last denies sufficient time to members to pass intelligently on them. The joint ways and means committee functions almost autonomously, he said, making it virtually a third house of the legislature.

Considerable to the fault is attributable to the lack of a strong minority party, in Neuberger's opinion. There is no party responsibility. Presiding officers are chosen through bipartisan alliances, with promises of special favors as inducements for votes.

Constitutional reform is needed in Oregon in Neuberger's opinion. "The board of control system is 'ridiculous'. The governor should have the full executive power. Here, we have on the board of control one governor and two would-be governors, and the two are trying to pull the rug out from under the governor. He cited the new constitution of New Jersey as one of the best in the country.

Neuberger poked ridicule at the present party lineup with Moran heading the republican ticket, though his voting record is almost identical with that of Lucas of Illinois, senate majority leader, while Howard Latourette heads the democratic ticket, though he "is so far to the right of Doug McKay they can't communicate with smoke signals."

There is not everything in Oregon politics is wrong, said Neuberger. There is less corruption here than in most states that he was familiar with. The state pays good benefits to its various social programs. The state's tax system is good (in spite of the legislature). The major defect, in his opinion is a lack of boldness and imagination. Forty years ago Oregon pioneered in political reform; but has coasted since. It ought to show more adventure now.

Many of these criticisms are valid. Legislative practices are a bad feature of our state government; and the division of authority and responsibility among the members of the board of control cripples positive administration. But this has been the way a good many Oregonians wanted it—they didn't want to aggressive a state government. Maybe the younger generation with more boldness and imagination will prove more venturesome.

## Better English

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "He came home around ten o'clock minus his money."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "oceanic"?
3. Which of these words is misspelled? Ruminant, rudment, ruggedness, rubescent.
4. What does the word "intrepid" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with fa that means "to hold spellbound; to allure"?

- ANSWERS
1. Say, "He came home about ten o'clock without his money."
  2. Pronounce o-she-an-ik, not o-al-an-ik, nor o-shan-ik.
  3. Rudiment. Fearless; bold; undaunted. "He was an intrepid soldier."
  5. Fascinate.

## Hitch-Hiking Kitty Finds New Home

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 20—(AP)—A small cat had found a home here today—after hitching a 185-mile ride on the front spring of a Greyhound bus to do it.

The terrified cat, covered with grease and mud, was discovered by garage mechanics after the bus had finished its run from Yakima, Wash., perched on the four-inch wide spring.

Mrs. Cieta Jacoby, office clerk, washed and fed the cat and said she would take it home.

Loss from death or injury of livestock in transit comes to nearly \$25,000,000 a year in the U. S.

## Shortage of Farm Labor Over Oregon

Seasonal farm labor shortages continued over much of Oregon during the past week as inclement weather interfered with harvests of nuts, potatoes, apples, sugar beets and other fall crops, the Oregon state employment service reported Friday.

Picking of walnuts and filberts was so far behind in Washington county that pupils were excused from schools and help is being called for in the Portland area. McMinnville, Oregon City and Salem also reported more workers needed by nut growers.

With the potato harvest 50 to 60 per cent complete in central Oregon both Klamath Falls and the Bend-Redmond areas were asking for buckers and pickers for the remaining two or three weeks. Nearly 600 more could be used, officials said.

Hood River still is seeking apple pickers but Medford reports adequate help for the remainder of its fruit season.

## Air Pollution Bill Being Considered

The 1951 legislature will receive a bill designed to regulate air pollution in Oregon, Gov. Douglas McKay declared Friday in a statement designating the week of October 22 to 28, inclusive, as smoke abatement week.

Governor McKay said his subcommittee on air pollution is preparing such legislation to submit to the committee on natural resources. It was indicated that the bill will call for enlargement of the duties of the present state sanitary authority to include air-pollution control.

## New Bank Manager House Hunting Here

A. A. Atherton, recently appointed manager of the Salem Branch, First National Bank of Portland, arrived in Salem Friday.

He and Mrs. Atherton, former residents of Ontario, are house hunting. They are living now at the Senator hotel.

## Marionette Show Slates Billing Here

A marionette show, "Paul Bunyan and the Adventure of the Wooden Hotcakes," will be presented Wednesday and Thursday evening at Parrish junior high school under sponsorship of the Salem public schools.

Proceeds will be used to purchase special art equipment for Salem schools.

The show, presented by Robert and Edith Williams of The Puppet House in Puyallup, Wash., will depict the adventures of Paul Bunyan, the giant logging hero of American folk lore.

The Williams have given marionette shows for 22 years. They studied the art in both America and Europe and design and make all their puppets.

## Landscaping Meeting Bids Salem Group

Edith Schryver, Salem, will report on landscape architecture in a changing world at a meeting of the Oregon Society of Landscape Architects in Portland today.

Other Salem members of the society include Mark H. Astrup, Glenn W. Wharton, Harold Spooner, Elizabeth Lord, and Mrs. Eunice C. Brandt.

## Green Crosses To Emphasize Safety Drive

A "blitzkrieg" of Salem streets, tentatively set for the first week of November, was outlined this week by the city traffic safety council executive board. It was agreed that the drive would be part of a continuing campaign for safety.

The board, headed by Dave Hoss, met with the city traffic safety commission, comprising the city manager, engineer and police chief.

Scores of green crosses will emphasize safety at pedestrian crosswalks, signs will be stenciled on store windows, auto wrecks displayed as examples of what might happen, and safety leaflets distributed to homes and on parked autos.

Hoss said the program would try to remind every resident of his responsibility for safety, reaching him in numerous ways so the warning could not be neglected easily.

City Manager J. L. Franzen assured that the city would see that traffic violators would find that the program goes beyond "suggestion"—through police action. Funds for the committee's work are provided principally from Salem Life Underwriters association and the Salem Auto Dealers association.

## Alcohol Deals May Curtail Liquor Output

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20—(AP)—The government plans to start buying alcohol from whiskey distillers early in December to feed the reactivated synthetic rubber plants, officials disclosed here.

The extent, if any, to which the reconstruction finance corporation's purchases will cut into beverage spirits output could not be ascertained from sources immediately available.

Representatives of 14 major distillers conferred with RFC rubber officials today, a spokesman for the government corporation said. Estimated alcohol requirements to bring the synthetic industry up to capacity output were presented, but the whiskey companies were given no specific gallonage to earmark for defense.

The RFC official said the agency hopes for a purely voluntary arrangement within the industry for the sharing of the load, and indicated that RFC's office of rubber reserve was pleased with the assurances given by the industry men.

RFC is retoring laid-up plants to production to boost the government's synthetic output to full rated capacity of 755,000 tons a year.

The Red River of the north runs from the Minnesota-North Dakota border to Lake Winnipeg in Canada.



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## Ruthless Reorganization of Manpower Needed To Match Russian Numbers in Event of War

By Joseph Alsop  
WASHINGTON, Oct. 20—One of the first lessons of the Korean infantry fighting was summed up for this reporter by a wise and experienced 1st Sgt. "What matters in the line, half the time, is bodies, just bodies. If they'll stay there, hold a gun, and shoot, they're good enough."

This lesson was driven home in Korea in at least two major ways. Because bodies were few, our fox-holes were spaced at sixty yards. Such a line must always be expected to break somewhere, if subjected to serious pressure. This was the explanation of the repeated enemy breakthroughs, in the first dangerous months.

Equally, one of Gen. MacArthur's boldest and most brilliant strokes was to use South Korean bodies, on a very large scale, in his American divisions. Throughout July the Seventh division, still in Japan, was used as a replacement center for the divisions in Korea. But the Seventh division was also about half of MacArthur's total reserve for the Inchon landing. Therefore, in order to conserve his reserve, the general firmly ordered the divisions in Korea to accept South Koreans as replacements, and simultaneously filled up the depleted Seventh division with no less than 8,000 South Koreans.

The South Koreans in the Seventh division had only a couple of months training; the replacements sent to the other divisions had only a few weeks. The extraordinary expedient of incorporating half-trained foreign

troops in our own units was at first bitterly opposed by almost all MacArthur's subordinates. The general gave his order when our forces in Korea were already superior to the enemy in fire-power, were infinitely more mobile, and were supreme in the air. Yet the order was still essential. Without the South Koreans to "stay there, hold a gun and shoot" (which they did very adequately), the Inchon landing would have been impossible. So much do bodies mean in war.

All this is necessary to place in perspective what appears to be one of the gravest and most urgent organizational problems of western defense. If bodies in the line are important, it follows that it is also important for our military organization to get the maximum number of bodies into the line. And this, unfortunately, is emphatically not the case today.

In the simplest terms, our army is now expected to use a million and a half men to produce the rough equivalent of twenty-five divisions. But according to current estimates, the Soviets are using only three million men to get a total of 175 divisions, including a high proportion of heavy armored, mechanized and artillery divisions.

The contrast here is almost incredible. We use 42,000 men in the rear areas to keep in the line a rifle division of 18,000 men. The Soviets use 6,400 men in the rear areas to keep in the line a rifle division of 10,800 men. The total manpower consumed in a single one of our rifle divisions is in fact more than the whole Soviet "divisional slice," which is only 17,500 men.

Furthermore, although our rifle divisions consume so many men more than the Soviet divisions, the American divisions have no more firepower. The only com-

bat advantage we can apparently claim is that the Soviet infantry companies are expected to march on foot, unless supplied with special transport by higher headquarters. But it is highly arguable whether this claimed advantage is real, as the Korean war, with its sharp penalties for being road-bound, all too clearly suggested. And except for the "medical battalions" or our own army manuals admit that all other elements of the Soviet rifle divisions are now fully mobile.

There are reasons for these contrasts, to be sure. The Red army needs only to be ready to advance short distances beyond its own borders in order to achieve great conquests; while our divisions must fight overseas for defense. The Red army lives on the country; ours cannot. The Red army can afford divisional "medical battalions" of only eighty men; we could not consider such cold-bloodedness. All these differences will always require the American army to make a greater investment of manpower per body—with a gun—in the line.

But all these differences, no matter how often emphasized, cannot excuse the existing situation. The aim should now be to get at least twice as many bodies-with-guns-in-the-line from each unit of invested manpower. This aim should be ruthlessly pursued, even at the cost of root and branch reorganization of all the services (for the army here is only one example; our navy is also an offender, and the air force is probably worse than the army). Ruthlessness is needed in this reorganization of our services. For if we do not change our present habits of manpower use, we must be defeated by the Soviet Union in any contest in which bodies count at all.

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