

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 23, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY
CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher

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

Working Out a Tax Program

A political battle over an excess profits tax is shaping up in Washington. The house ways and means committee by a strict party vote has rejected a tax proposal of republicans and decided to give its attention solely to an excess profits tax. President Truman calls for one which would produce an additional \$4 billion in revenue. The "dope" is that the house will pass an EP bill but the senate will do nothing about it during the short period before the 81st congress adjourns. That would shift the whole tax problem over to the 82nd congress.

Meantime the forces opposing an excess profits tax are being mustered, chiefly of businessmen and business organizations. Their arguments have been recounted previously in this column. Perhaps the strongest negative argument is the prospect that heavy taxation will be the order of the day for a long period. The excess profits tax is usually considered a special burden of short duration. Therefore it is proposed that taxing for the longer term should be worked out now.

One of the best proposals as an alternate to the EP tax is that advanced by the Committee for Economic Development, a middle-of-the-road business organization whose ideas on post-war economics have been quite sensible. It would increase corporate and individual income tax rates for 1951 and then work out a long-term tax program.

It is generally agreed that taxes should be increased. Not only does the government need more revenue but financing its needs by bonds and deficits merely results in added inflation, already serious. Taxes drain off excess buying power and should be applied rather generally. The need for this is greater when the supply of consumer goods is reduced as seems probable in the early future.

What the country needs is heroic financial leadership to determine policies which will safeguard our economy, our financial system, provide adequate revenues for government and not shackle too much the productive machinery of America which sustains the whole economy. The problem should not be handled just with an eye to a popular solution—too much is at stake.

Peking Rebuffs Washington

Radio Peking scoffs at the declarations of President Truman and Secretary Acheson denying any hostile intent toward China. The tone of the Peking broadcast is truculent, much after the Radio Moscow model. There is no indication of friendly response to Washington's overtures in language like this:

"America has lied and smashed her way across the world to Chinese territory and into it, has seized Formosa and is threatening another neighbor, Viet Nam (in French Indo-China)."

This offers a gloomy prospect that the Korean war may not be confined. China, of course, is deceiving no one with its "volunteers" in North Korea, though its moves do not fully disclose Chinese intentions. It does look as though the writer was correct when he said that Red China was not a puppet of Soviet Russia but a willing ally.

Floods in central California valleys belong in the "believe it or not" category; but press reports and pictures give proof that they were real over the week end. The whole Pacific coast has been getting the full treatment from old Jupiter Pluvius this fall. But rain makes the grass and trees grow, which offers considerable

Russia Capable of Dropping 70 A-Bombs On U. S. in 2 Years, Despite Defense Efforts

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop
WASHINGTON, Nov. 20—According to the estimates on which American planning is based, the Kremlin has, today, a stockpile of between 20 to 25 atomic bombs. If you ask the best of the air defense experts how many of these bombs could be expected to get through to targets in this country, in case of surprise attack by the Soviet fleet of TU-4 strategic bombers, you will get a rather bleak answer—"Almost all of them."

As this answer suggests, the effectiveness of the American air defense today stands very close to zero. This is not the fault of the air force. During the period when Louis A. Johnson was secretary of defense, the air force, starved for funds, concentrated very largely on strategic bombing capacity.

This decision was demonstrably the correct one, for, as General Omar Bradley pointed out the other day, since Korea "the fire world has been left without adequate reserves except for the atomic bomb." But the policy of concentrating on the strategic air force left this country, when the Johnson regime ended, with a totally inadequate radar net, and without any modern radar-equipped night-fighters at all.

possible. The radar screen is being vastly improved, and it will soon be extended well out into the Atlantic by means of picket ships. Plans for the creation of an overall "theater of the United States," commanded by a single commander to whom all three services will be responsible in case of attack on this country, are being studied by the joint chiefs of staff. The continental air defense is being reorganized and greatly strengthened.

Plans are also being prepared for very strict air traffic control. This is a much more important matter than most people realize. Obviously, the first requirement of a serious air defense is to be able to distinguish between friendly planes and hostile planes. Any unidentified plane may be an enemy plane. Until very recently, an average of about a dozen planes a day which were never identified at all were spotted on the radar screens in the area assigned to one of the country's seven air divisions. This area included New York City, and the planes might, of course, have been Russian. The average has now been more than cut in half. But a serious defense will require that every plane flying over American territory can be instantly identified.

Yet even the most serious defense, the experts warn, can never come close to a total defense, bar the discovery of some entirely new scientific principle. The very best that is hoped is that an air defense can be built within the next 18 to 20 months capable of knocking out between 20 and 30 per cent of an attacking force. And those who should know, emphasize, with all the fervor of men who will be blamed if disaster strikes, that even this ratio would be little short of miraculous.

compensation except to the individuals who get washed out.

This Editor Was a Builder

Oregon has lost an able editor and a progressive citizen in the passing of Edward B. Aldrich, editor and publisher of the Pendleton East Oregonian. "Ed" as he was familiarly known, was a native Oregonian and graduate of Oregon State college. He devoted his mature life to one newspaper, serving as editor of the Pendleton daily from 1908 up to the time of his death.

Aldrich definitely was a builder, working steadily for the development and improvement of his community and state. He served for eight years on the state highway commission. He used his paper constantly to promote projects to serve and to speed the growth of the country. The McNary (Umatilla) dam was one project he fostered. For years he campaigned for a flood protection and irrigation works dam on a tributary of the Umatilla river. He was a staunch supporter of a Columbia Valley administration because he saw in it the prospect of more rapid and better planned development. A democrat, he was not narrowly partisan by any means.

Ed Aldrich was honored and respected in his city and in the state and in his own profession. He had the satisfaction an editor craves of working and writing up to the last. Now other hands take over his duties.

The term "blood strain" is just a metaphor. Family characteristics are unrelated to blood but are transmitted in the genes. Recognizing this scientific fact the board of governors of the American Red Cross has directed that reference to race or color of blood donors be deleted from report cards. It was just ancient prejudice which called for any segregation of blood of whites and blacks. Blood to save a life should carry no color label.

The football season winds up except for the Bowl contests next Saturday, and a "civil war" climax with Washington vs. Washington State; Oregon vs. Oregon State; California vs. Stanford; USC vs. UCLA. The second is to be played in Portland and offers a chance for consolation to teams that have been consistent losers this year.

Editorial Comment

Voters Befuddled
Despite all the publicity, editorial comment and other effort made to acquaint voters with various measures the fact is probably very few voters thoroughly understand all the proposals which are placed before them at election time.

This failure to understand is due in part, at least, to the average citizen's reluctance to devote the time necessary for study and consideration—but most of all, it is due to obscure, confusing verbiage, double-talk and in some cases purposely weasel words. Even the legal eagles are confused and unable to agree on exactly what results may be expected if such and such a law is placed on the books.

It was interesting to note the analyses and recommendations of Oregon editors on the uniform standard time bill. There was considerable disagreement as to its provisions and the voters were completely befuddled by its ballot title and wording of the law itself.

To our mind a "ballot title bureau" might be a good thing but a clarifying commission for all measures up for public vote is needed even more. (Medford Mall Tribune)

TOMBSTONES MAKE POOR BUILDING FOUNDATIONS



Macy, Gimbel Better Than Auctioneers

By Henry McLemore
NEW YORK, Nov. 20—We took a look around the apartment and SHE decided what we needed.

Two buffet sort of businesses for the dining room. An easy chair in that corner. Another one over there. A little table and mirror to go in the foyer and a much bigger sofa to break the wall space.

I agreed with her. Completely. And I told her, as I thumbed through the newspapers, that New York was the place to buy things. Nowhere else in the world would you have such a choice.

Macy's, Gimbel's, Bloomingdale's, and all the other ten thousand and one stores in this town. Turn a Russian loose in Gimbel's and he'll never be a Russian again.

Enter sex. Female sex. This is exactly what Jean told me.

"Henry, Charlotte furnished her whole apartment at auction sales. We are going to buy everything we need at auction sales. She has a chest in her dining room that she paid \$70.00 for that you couldn't buy for three times that much in a store."

Just as surely as the sun rises in the east, we took off to an auction. Thirty miles from New York. Rudeness predominated. I told a man that I was there to bid. He said he didn't care what I was for, but I was not to block the aisle.

Jean's eyes glistened when the auctioneer put up a cloverleaf table that was a mess of scars. "Twenty dollars!" she yelled. "A man in the front row yelled, 'Twenty-two dollars.'"

I looked, quickly, at my wife. Jean got the table for forty bucks. A bargain, mind you, if you have an uncle who runs a furniture repair shop.

Bidding was going on all around me when I sang to Jean what I thought was a sensible song.

"Honey, honey, bless your heart, you're the honey that I love so well... "Listen, child," and I said that with all the love my heart will ever have, I said, "Jean, try to believe me. Try to believe that no one ever gives you anything for free. The auctioneer knows what the maple chest is worth. Please, child, remember that he has not devoted his life to giving away bargains."

She didn't listen. So I got in the spirit of the thing.

I bought a green glass plate with half of General Grant's face on it for three dollars. Don't ask me what I'm going to do with it.

Jean bought a chest of drawers which I swear won't hold Frank Sinatra's chest, which is a very little chest, indeed.

We left the auction joint with everything. We're holding an auction next Thursday.

Moral: You can't beat New York's department stores. If you think you can, try to name me an owner who is starving. Even see a thin Macy? Or a hungry Gimbel? (Distributed by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

Your Health

Written by Dr. Herman N. Sundensen

Regular, thorough, and careful brushing of the teeth not only discourages decay but promotes health of the gums. Normal gums are firm and of a pale pink color. Deep-red, soft, or spongy gums which bleed easily are almost always diseased.

To maintain health and cleanliness, the teeth and gums should be properly brushed three times daily, three to five minutes at a time. The brushing is best done after meals. The dental treatment of gum disorders cannot accomplish permanent results unless the patient is willing to cooperate by good toothbrushing procedures at home.

All types of tooth brushes have been recommended. One which is favored has an inch-long head, with one-half inch bristles. The bristles are of medium stiffness. The brushing must be carried out in such a way that the ends of the bristles do not irritate the gums. Instead, the sides of the bristles should be pressed against the gums. There is no one manner of toothbrushing which is preferred by all dentists, so each person should follow the recommendations of his dentist in regard to the procedure to be employed. For children, it is suggested that the brush be pressed against the teeth and gums and moved in circles.

As to the dentifrice to be employed, this is also a matter which should be left to the dentist. Many are used because of their pleasant taste; others, because of their cleansing qualities.

Inflammation of the gums may occur because of infections, including trench mouth, which cause the formation of ulcers or sores on the gums and lining membrane of the cheeks. In most cases this condition is satisfactorily treated with penicillin. When inflammation of the gums occurs, the dentist should, of course, be consulted at once, so that he may find the cause and prescribe the treatment to be used.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
T. Y.: Is there any medicine which can be taken for a nervous stomach?

Answer: It is not clear what is meant by "a nervous stomach." There are some persons who suffer from discomfort in the abdomen with occasional attacks of sickness and vomiting, all of which symptoms may be due to some nervous disorder.

Correction of the cause for the nervousness will usually relieve the difficulty. (Copyright, 1950 King Features)

The eruption of Katmai volcano in the Aleutians in 1912 was one of the most violent volcanic outbursts in modern times.



(Continued from page one)

GRIN AND BEAR IT by Lichty

