

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

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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.

## A Briton for Sea Command

Winston Churchill touched a live British nerve when he asked Prime Minister Attlee if there was not a British admiral capable of serving as commander of sea forces for Atlantic pact nations. Attlee's reply was rather lame, that the choice of an American was made by the 12-nation defense committee, and finally agreed to "look into the matter," at Churchill's prodding.

Twice first lord of the admiralty, and given credit for having the British high seas fleet mobilized in home waters at the outbreak of the first world war, Churchill has an intense loyalty to the British navy. He made the point that the British had sunk 525 U-boats in the late war, against a score of 174 for the U. S. and accused the labor government of letting Britain be treated as a stepchild. He jabbed at the Attlee government for thus letting Britain decline in influence and esteem among the nations.

It must be admitted the doughty old watchdog of the sea made a pretty good case. While the British navy is no longer the exclusive mistress of the seas, it still is a powerful force and well-officered and manned. As far as the United States is concerned, since Eisenhower was invited to serve as commander of the combined armies this country could with good grace consent to giving sea command to a British admiral. Russia's naval strength is almost entirely in submarines which would work to best advantage on the sea lanes approaching Europe. In that kind of warfare the British have the advantage of longer experience.

There is also the matter of national pride. It has been humiliating to Britons from the Victorian age to see the liquidation of former empire, the great reduction in overseas investment, the decline in prestige which their country has suffered. Why not give a British admiral command of the combined fleets? Running a navy is one thing the English are competent at, ever since they and the storm scattered the Spanish armada of 1588.

Quite a stink over sellouts of basketball players to gambling touts. But when youth are hired as athletes in violation of codes covering amateurism what may one expect? It's a short step from getting wages or fancy cars in subterfuge to taking a bribe for throwing a ball game. Don't put all the blame on Madison Square Garden and the gambling fraternity.

Reporters are quite familiar with the curt "no comment" response of public officials and business bigwigs. But the phrase is seeping down the line. When a pair of burglars were leaving a San Francisco market with \$2700 in loot a clerk tried to halt one with the question: "Are you a customer or a holdup man?" The reply was, "no comment." That is carrying this "no comment" business too far.

Fish frozen in ice may be revived when the ice melts, but medical history was made in Chicago recently when a woman was picked up with her extremities frozen stiff and a body temperature of 64 degrees, and was revived in a hospital. She will be able to talk about her "case," and this time it wasn't an operation!

Lawmakers are forever talking about plugging loopholes in tax laws. This prompts the question, Who left the loopholes there in the first place?

## Crushing Defeat of Chinese Communist Troops In Korea Alters Entire Far Eastern Picture

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23 — Sobriety is a good mood in a war, and it is too early to ring the church bells because Lieutenant General Ridgway and the U.N. forces have now inflicted a bloody defeat on the enemy in Korea. Yet it is important to recognize that this defeat of the communist offensive is a great and stirring event, which may prove to be a major turning point. To understand why, it is only necessary to consider the unhappy position of the Sino-Soviet high command in Korea.

The first thing to understand is that the communist armies have suffered fearful casualties. The air force habit of counting in corpses from the air, and making foolishly detailed claims, has given rise to skepticism on this point. Yet careful testing of the day-to-day claims, both of the air and ground forces, has revealed that current casualty estimates are, if anything, too low. There have by now been many such episodes as that it Namdas, where the air force claimed 75 enemy killed on Jan. 16, and the next day advancing ground forces counted over 800 dead.

All kinds of evidence from within China have also confirmed that combat attrition, cold, hunger and disease are rapidly crippling the communist armies. As of January 1, the enemy is believed to have had rather more than 450,000 men at the front, with another 450,000 or 500,000 men in reserve or in the original jump-off positions on the Yalu river. This overall total of almost a million men is now thought to be reduced to about 600,000.

## Truman to the Senate?

Washington gossip says that President Truman may choose not to run again in 1952; instead he would seek a seat in the senate from Missouri. This really would not be surprising. He is showing the wear and tear of the "toughest job on earth." He enjoyed his work in the senate, its fellowship, its lighter burden.

Only one man previously has taken a seat in congress after serving as president, John Quincy Adams. Adams, who had been a U. S. senator before being president, became a representative in congress from a Massachusetts district after his one term as president was over. He served there the remainder of his life, succumbing after being stricken on the floor of the house.

There may be good basis for the speculation as to Truman's political future. That would make 1952 a true free-for-all.

A Newark meat packer is under indictment for furnishing the army meat of inferior grade, and two soldiers with him. The army has been particular about its meat ever since the Spanish war when Chicago packers were accused of furnishing "embalmed beef" on army contracts. That scandal broke over the head of Secretary of War Russell Alger, and the army has been on guard ever since. Soldiers complained of too much Spam last time, but none said it was unwholesome—just too much of it.

Some agitation over Albany way is reported for creation of a union high school with Albany as the center. If we may contribute to the discussion we would offer the opinion that the wiser course is to consolidate the area into a single district. If the bill for a unified district passes that will happen anyway. Albany is much too large to have its school system divided in administration between high and elementary schools.

Quite a stink over sellouts of basketball players to gambling touts. But when youth are hired as athletes in violation of codes covering amateurism what may one expect? It's a short step from getting wages or fancy cars in subterfuge to taking a bribe for throwing a ball game. Don't put all the blame on Madison Square Garden and the gambling fraternity.

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## GRIN AND BEAR IT by Lichty



"One inspection after another! ... the enemy won't like our looks no matter how neat we are ..."

## Tempest Over Pact's Naval Chief Boiling

By J. M. Roberts, Jr.  
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst  
This little tempest arising in Britain over who is to command the North Atlantic pact's naval forces promises to be good.

If Americans look at the thing with anything like their normal sense of humor, the result won't make much difference. The United States has been very lithe for the last few years about asking other countries to surrender their sovereignty in favor of joint economic recovery and collective security. It was easy for us. We didn't have to surrender anything, and if we did Americans were running everything and could look after our interests. Maybe a little wearing of the same shoe might be good for our souls.

Articles of incorporation for the Willamette Farm Labor council, a new organization to secure workers for valley harvests, were filed Friday with Marion county clerk.

Winston Churchill, who plays second fiddle to no man in his understanding of a friendship for the U. S., blew up the first gale, sending Clement Attlee's coatails up around his neck before he could fasten even one button.

It all started when it became known that the NATO defense committee had chosen Admiral William M. Fechteler, commander of the U. S. Atlantic fleet, to be General Eisenhower's counterpart afloat. Fechteler has a good record, in Pacific combat and administration. But he is by no means a world figure to whom Britain and especially the plebeian British navy—can bow without a second thought.

Churchill said, in effect, that Britain and British admirals, dagdummit, knew some things about that part of the business, and where did Attlee get off giving up every right that Britain has.

Government and opposition members alike rushed to Churchill's support. So did press and public. It's the kind of issue that could inflame public imagination in Britain more than all the worries about inflation and nationalization which already have made Attlee's government so unstable. That is, of course, a part of Churchill's argument.

The argument caught the American state department with its signal flags down. The navy was silent. There may have been even a little surprise that anybody should object to America running everything. The U. S. navy is more than twice as large as Britain's—probably larger than all European navies combined. The NATO fleet will be fundamentally dependent on American production. But the U. S. wouldn't want an argument of that kind. She's too big for it.

It might be well to reconsider. Too many people already think that the current conflict is primarily between America and Russia. Since the U. S. most urgently desires not to be the whole show, it would be just as well to avoid the appearance of its too.

with be that means "to while away"?

Better English  
1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I have never seen such an interesting play."  
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "predecessor"?  
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Destructible, desultory, despondency, dissatisfaction.  
4. What does the word "virago" mean?  
5. What is a word beginning

## Air Pollution Hearing Set By Legislature

Increasing interest in legislation to curb air pollution in Oregon probably will necessitate another public hearing before the senate public health committee, chairman Jack Lynch announced Friday.

Lynch disclosed that proponents of senate bill 9, designed to curb air pollution, would meet in the executive department here March 6 to discuss a substitute measure drafted by utility, lumbering and light metals interests. These interests are opposed to the original measure. Senate bill 9 provides machinery for abating current air pollution and preventing it in the future. Opponents, objecting to some penalty features of the measure, asked permission to draft a new bill.

"We hope to work out some bill that will be satisfactory to all interests concerned," Lynch said.

Governor Douglas McKay asked for passage of air pollution legislation in his message to the current legislature.

The bill, as originally drafted, also provides for some necessary civil defense adjuncts such as a mobile laboratory and devices to test air purity so that presence of dangerous radiological, bacteriological or biological particles may readily be detected.

## Eleven Bills Signed Into Law by McKay

Gov. Douglas McKay Friday signed house bill 114, by Anderson and Brady, which repeals that part of a law requiring the state labor commissioner to make reports to each legislature on the number, social, sanitary habits, nature of employment and earnings of Japanese and Chinese.

Also signed by the governor was house bill 37, by Greenwood and others, increasing the salaries of state police officers.

Other bills signed Friday: H.B. 105, by agricultural committee—relating to the importation from infested areas of agricultural commodities host to fruit flies and certain contagious diseases.

H.B. 144, by Wade et al., relating to common trust funds.

H.B. 149, by ways and means committee—relating to certain expenditures out of the state building fund, and declaring an emergency.

H.B. 227, by Fisher, et al.—increasing salaries of certain county surveyors.

H.B. 233, by revision of laws committee—increasing membership fees of members of the Oregon State Bar.

H.B. 323, by Goode and Cardwell—increasing the salaries of certain Linn county officers.

H.B. 371, by Ohmart, et al.—increasing salaries of certain Marion county officers.

H.B. 372, by French, et al.—increasing salaries of certain Wheeler county officers.

## Valley Farm Labor Council Incorporates

Articles of incorporation for the Willamette Farm Labor council, a new organization to secure workers for valley harvests, were filed Friday with Marion county clerk.

Value of corporation-owned property was listed at \$1,100, with future income to come from membership fees, dues, gifts and service charges.

Incorporators were W. Frank Crawford, William J. Linford, George B. Paulus and J. E. Johnson, all of Salem, who are to serve as directors until formal election is conducted to name nine directors representing various crops and interests.

Aim of the organization is to encourage residents of the area to participate in harvest work and to secure outside labor as well.

## Adequate Inspection Law for Meat Sought By Packers, Buyers

Oregon meat packers and housewives Friday asked the legislature to enact an adequate meat inspection law to protect the public and the packers.

The request was made to the senate agriculture committee which is considering meat inspection legislation aimed at curbing abuses by some packers who have been selling slunk veal and diseased meat.

Jacob Mullin, president of the Aero Meat Packing company at Cornelius, urged adoption of a uniform state meat inspection law.

"Recent publicity in the newspapers about slunk veal and horse-meat being sold in Portland has hurt both the meat packing industry and the cattle ranchers," Mullin said.

Mrs. Clifford Bassett, Oregon City, representing the League of Women Voters, said present meat inspection laws are "woefully inadequate."

She said the bill now in the senate committee is not specific enough and would leave too much to the discretion of state meat inspectors.

G. F. Chambers, president of the Valley Packing company in Salem, a federally inspected plant, said Oregon is classed among the four states of the nation with the poorest meat inspection laws.

Chambers said the legislature should set up a law which would include specific requirements for packing plants. He contended the public should pay for inspection because it is for their protection and state paid inspectors would not be obligated to plants where they work.

Chambers pointed out that the present state inspection law is not compulsory and is too casual in nature to be effective when applied. State inspectors now make only occasional checks of plants which request their services.

Orrin Brown, president of the Medford Meat company, said diseased cattle is being brought into southern Oregon from California because Oregon doesn't require inspection and California won't allow them to be sold. California has a law similar to the federal law under which the state pays for inspection and rigid requirements are laid down.

## Legislators Banter Hair Raising Story

An Associated Press news story in Friday's Oregon Statesman prompted a lively discussion in the state senate Friday morning.

Sen. Warren Gill, Lebanon, a legislator with rapidly "thinning hair," called to the attention of Sen. Fred Lamport of Salem, who is in the same predicament, a Statesman yarn headlined, "Hormone Cream Grows Hair on Rats, Heads of Two Men."

Gill asked Senate President Patterson to appoint Lamport and himself as a two-man interim committee to go east and study the problem.

Sen. Frank Hilton, Portland, objected. "I don't think we should discuss legislative hearing on a house bill to reorganize the laboratory and transfer control from state police to a board representing all law enforcement agencies."

Maison said he has asked the University of Oregon in a school to supply technical help to operate the lab until a new director is found.

"The laboratory is now open and functioning, although put on a full-scale basis, and I'm trying hard to find a director," Maison said.

Maison said Raphael Maier, chemist at the lab, was dismissed "because their is no longer any need for his job. The position is being vacated."

DALLAS TO VOTE  
DALLAS — The Dallas Cemetery association will hold a special election Tuesday, February 27, from 2 to 7 p.m. at the Polk court-

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