The Oregon Statesman

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

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Release Indians From Wardship

Releasing the Indians of the Oregon Coast tribes is recommended by E. Morgan Pryse, area director for the Indian Service. More than 2,000 are descendants of some 43 tribes or bands of Indians. A great many of them do not live on the two reservations, Grand Ronde and Siletz, but live and work in various communities of Western Oregon. Members of four tribes will share in an award of over $3,000,000 to cover the value of the lands their ancestors ceded to whites in 1855, but must wait for Congress to make the appropriation.

Reservation lands either could be sold and the proceeds apportioned or deeded to the tribes for such disposition as the tribes prefer. Action of Congress is required to effect the changes recommended.

This ought to be done. "Lo, the poor Indians" is a common phrase indicating the lowered scale of his present status. He is a citizen but is subject to discriminatory legislation or kept under certain degrees of wardship. It is time he was given full status as an American citizen.

Different opinion prevail among some tribes on the question of termination of wardship. The Klamath Indian Council when it last voted on the question turned down the proposal to close out the reservation. Yakimas, Umatillas, Warm Springs Indians all have reservations and certain vested rights. When their fishing rights at Celilo are destroyed by construction of a dam at The Dalles that will release one tie binding the mid-Columbia Indians to their tribe. It is significant that while Indians are ambitious for full freedom they still are reluctant to dissolve the tribe, sell off the reservation and distribute the assets among members. They realize that many soon would dissipate their shares and that it would hasten the day when the Indian would be extinguished as a race, being absorbed into the greater constituency of whites, or of whites and blacks as old color barriers break down.

Such a fate seems inevitable, however. The second-class citizenship implied in wardship will not satisfy Indians as more of them acquire higher levels of education. The Indians of the Coast seem ready now to loosen their dependence on the Great White Father.

Covering the Nation

The Statesman has long been cognizant of the fact that hundreds of thousands of Oregon residents were born in, have lived in or have visited in many other parts of the United States. It has felt that these people have a right to read news of their former homes or of the places familiar to them. And it has felt that newspapers were not doing a good job in making such news available.

So this last week a survey was taken as to just what kind of nationwide domestic news coverage was being given, aside from the major events which always are given the full treatment but in which many states seldom share.

The survey brought out some interesting facts. The Associated Press, best-rounded and largest news-gathering service in the world, was found to be giving full treatment to Washington and world-wide news but actually, so far as its West Coast wires are concerned, was not bringing in news of many states. Newspapers of New York, Chicago, New Orleans, Memphis, Denver, San Francisco, Seattle and Portland were perused closely. The newspaper which had the most states represented in datelines in any single edition was the New York Times—and it had but seven.

The results of the survey prompted on idea—to publish one news brief from each of the 48 states in a Sunday feature. It appears today under "The States of the Union" heading.

The Statesman would like to make "States of the Union" a regular feature. Whether it does or not depends on the inflow of news and editing as to quality. At any rate, here is a "try" at such a news round-up.

Labor Tells Its Story

To this desk comes a pocket-size pamphlet, "The Story of American Labor" published by the Oregon State Federation of Labor. It carries a Foreword by Kelley Loe, who is recognized as the "brain-trust" of Oregon's AFL, and we are quite sure the text is by Loe too. The booklet relates the history of the organized labor movement in the United States and the final achievement of federation in the 1880s.

The story of the earlier period is better told than of the later. The greater legal aid to labor organization obtained in the labor section (7a) of the NRA code and in the subsequent Wagner Act receives only brief reference. The pamphlet should be of special value for new members of labor unions, acquainting them with the story of the labor movement, its struggles and its attainments. It is by no means a "tract" through written in full sympathy with the aims of organized labor. Those who are not connected with unions can read it with profit.

Sad Homecoming

Waters off British Columbia claimed another craft and many lives Saturday. An airliner, homebound from Korean bringing 40 veterans back to the homeland, plunged into waters near Moresby Island in the Queen Charlotte group just off the B.C. Coast. Lives of 36 were lost, including the crew of three. A few hundred miles south the SS Pennsylvania and its crew of 45 disappeared in storm-tossed seas week before last.

Sad indeed was the fate of these war veterans. They had served their country in the hard fighting in Korea and were due for a rest at home. Instead they are victims of an air-water tragedy, and their families find joyful hopes turned into mourning. The nation bows in sorrow over this disastrous end of a homecoming flight.

The sighs of relief when President Truman withdrew the nomination of Gen. Mark Clark as ambassador to the State of Vatican City were audible. Senators dreaded the rollcall on that one, and in election year too. Some predict the President will not send in another nomination, although his secretary said he would. However he may have difficulty finding another suitable name—no one will relish being in the center of such a hot religio-political controversy.

The Oregon Tourist Bureau ought to spot some ads in Southern California newspapers to extol the fine winter climate being enjoyed at Oregon points (south of Portland).

Anyway the girls wearing these flammable sweaters can call themselves hot numbers.

STILL HOPING TO GET BACK IN THE SUGAR AGAIN

Comes the Dawn

by Conrad Prange

With elections coming up we began to wonder, the other day, where candidates were going to get all those campaign platforms, political pots and other impediments necessary to any good election year. We finally located a shop which carries a full line of this political equipment. The proprietor, a kindly sort of fellow wearing an Alf Landon button and with an Al Smith pencil stuck in his coat pocket, welcomed us with pleasure.

He showed us around his shop with an air of pride. One wall was loaded with shelves full of old and used handshakes. "We got all kinds of good election handshakes," said the shopkeeper. "Here's a 'Friendly Grip,' in several sizes, and over here is the 'Grim But Hopeful Handclasp'—a best seller these days with Republicans." Over in another corner of the shop were neat stacks of political rings with hats to match. The proprietor explained that both rings and hats were magnetized so that a candidate, no matter how wild his aim, could be assured of tossing his hat into the right ring.

Hanging in rows we noticed a varied assortment of political pots. "These pots," said our host, "have low boiling points. So a candidate won't have to go to a lot of trouble to get them boiling. They come in several sizes and are priced so that even the most frugal candidate can have his own pot to cook the opposition's goose in. By the way, if you want any good, plump opposition's geese, I believe I can fix you up in a few days. Expecting a shipment in from California."

Then there was a complete file of campaign stories arranged alphabetically. (Sample: "The best political joke I can think of is my opponent.") Another counter contained an odd assortment of essential items like jiffy voter registration cards (for candidates who want to make a quick changeover), birth certificates guaranteeing that the holder was born in a log cabin and a batch of old programs indicating that (fill in the name) appeared in a Fourth of July speaking engagement at the age of four. The shop also handled spiked shoes for running candidates.

Finally, up in the attic, our guide showed us a collection of campaign platforms. Some had planks missing, but most were in pretty good shape. "I sell a lot of these platforms just before election-time," said the shopkeeper. "But a few weeks after the voting I can usually buy them back from the parties dirt cheap." Some of the platforms were small (for municipal campaigns) and some were large (for state and national elections). A number of them were pretty old and ornate, dating back to B. C. (Before Coolidge). One obviously brand new platform stood over in a corner hidden by heavy drapes. That one, explained our guide, belonged to Gen. Eisenhower.

Cronies Declared Keeping President Truman Unaware of Nation's or His Own True Status

By JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON — Since the worst moments of the President's first Administration, there has never been a time when Harry S. Truman stood so low with the leaders of his own party. A curious mood, at once paralyzed and suicidal, seems to have infected most of the Democratic chieftains.

Joseph Alsop

On the one hand, they consider that the corruption issue is "destroying the party"—the most commonly used phrase. They foresee that further revelations at the oncoming congressional session will make the corruption issue even hotter than it is today. And they are increasingly agreed that the President, who bears the ultimate responsibility for the quality of his administration, will be defeated by the corruption issue if he runs again.

Stewart Alsop

On the other hand, they see the President obstinately set against doing anything decisive to neutralize the corporation issue. They also see the President allowing the Democratic party to drift into a situation where he will have to run again, for want of any more available candidate. Yet they cannot, so to speak, get through to the President, and very few of them have even tried to warn him honestly and frankly of the dangers they think are ahead.

The clue to this outwardly puzzling situation lies, of course, in the difficulty of getting through to Truman. Where domestic politics and domestic problems are concerned, the President is now almost wholly isolated by his own hangers-on.

Donald Dawson, Matt Connelly, John Steelman and Harry Vaughan, to name the most important members of the White House junta — live by Truman much as rhinoceros birds live by picking the teeth of their sustaining rhinoceros. One can imagine that the rhinoceros birds must be strongly opposed to dentists for rhinos. In the same fashion, the White House junta seeks to insulate the President; they paint for him a falsely optimistic picture of the state of his affairs, and they play on his pugnacity and irritability under criticism to stifle any impulse he may feel to take corrective measure.

Their boldness is difficult to exaggerate. The patronage dispenser, Dawson, freely used the President's name, for example, in order to get a fat Navy job for the discarded R.F.C. director, William E. Willet, although the President had heard no whisper of this peculiar project.

Equally, long after Stuart Symington had been sent in to clean up the RFC, the removal of Dawson's wife from control of files, and of Dawson's creature, Don Smith, from the personnel directorship, was long resisted. When Smith was at length fired, an important place was instantly found for him in the Federal Security Agency. And, meanwhile, Dawson and Company were so successfully busy poisoning the President's mind against Symington that the man chosen to reform the RFC actually had to go to the White House and protest he had not been "investigating too much."

It is pretty clear, moreover, that these same tactics, with a pretty strong assist from Federal Judge Thomas J. Murphy, were what stifled the President's impulse to tackle the corruption problem on a broad front. The President had decided there was a real need for a thorough cleanout. He had asked Murphy to head the clean-out commission. He was, of course, infuriated when Murphy first accepted, and then refused.

This anger of the President's produced exactly the right climate for aborting Truman's second gesture in the direction of a cleanout — the project to remove Attorney General J. Howard McGrath. The President made up his mind to take the big step. His mind was unmade by the usual argument that he was appeasing unfair critics. And thus nothing serious is to be done about this enormous problem of government corruption, while the congresional investigators lick their lips, and prepare to go after the Alien Property Office and other bureaus of the Justice Department, the Alcohol Tax Unit, perhaps the Civil Aviation Board, and several other organizations known for lax standards.

This complacency in the shadow of disaster would be more understandable, if precisely these same men were not needling the President to run again. He does not want to do so. Mrs. Truman most positively wants his not to. Most of the more eminent leaders of his party are convinced he will make a great mistake if he is again a candidate. But the key figures in the little group he sees every day at the morning conference speak of not quitting under fire, recall how the President confuted the prophet of gloom in 1948, and tear down every other potential candidate. And this is a kind of needling to which few men are more vulnerable than the President.

It is a tragic business, for the President's honesty, courage and patriotism are too obvious to need proof; yet his isolation in the White House frustrates his own good qualities. The only hope appears to be that the bludgeoning of events will break down this isolation, and cause Harry Truman to resume decisive leadership.

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IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued From Page One)

United Nations, offered this diagnosis of our ill:

"The trouble is that you in America, who have a great spiritual heritage and a great spiritual message to give to the rest of the world, are not giving it. You give the impression that in America only material things count, and in your struggle with Russia you are trying to beat her with her own weapons.

"Russia says that Communism will give the common people a high standard of living. So you say, 'That's nothing; Democracy will give them a higher standard.' When the Russians say, 'We will give every man a house,' you say 'Democracy will give him a mansion.' If the Russians say, 'Communism will give every man an automobile,' you say, 'That's nothing. Democracy will give him two automobiles.' Should the Russians say, 'Communism will give every man a radio,' you retort, 'Democracy will give him a television set.'

"So on and on you try to outbid Russia at the level of gross materialism. You forget that human greed is insatiable. You can never satisfy it. Even if you do outbid the Russians on that level, they have won, because it is the materialism that has won and not the spiritual ideals that so-called Christian America professes."

This does not mean that we should throw away our arms or stop manufacturing automobiles for mass ownership. It does mean that we must keep prominent before our own eyes and before the eyes of the world the creed of America: the worth and dignity of the individual, his security in essential freedoms, his responsibility for social cooperation in the direction of a better life. We need to cultivate higher standards for living as well as to raise the (material) standard of living.

Some confess to worry lest the burden of rearmament lead to national bankruptcy. There is the greater danger of spiritual bankruptcy if we so encumber our ideals with expedient compromises that we never can work out from under the moral and intellectual mortgage.

2 Injured as Auto Hits 2 Parked Cars

Two persons were injured, neither seriously, when the auto in which they were riding crashed into two parked vehicles at 1500 Center St. about 3 a. m. Saturday, city police reported.

Injured were Dale Powell, 566 N. 17th St., who suffered a broken right leg, and Myrl Dean Bunnell, 129 N. 24th St., a cut on the forehead. Both men were taken to Salem Memorial Hospital for treatment, and released Saturday.

Police said an eastbound 1949 coupe apparently went out of control on a slight curve and collided with a parked lumber truck and a 1936 panel delivery, registered to Charles Roberts, 1580 Center St.

The Bunnell auto was towed from the scene with extensive front end damage, police said. Both the parked vehicles sustained damage to left sides.

Reds Down 10 U.N. Planes In Past Week

SEOUL, Korea (AP) — The U. S. Fifth Air Force reported Saturday that 10 allied planes were shot down during the past week — two of them F-86 Sabre pets — in dogfights with Russian-built MIG-15s.

Sabre pilots down three MIGs and damaged seven others during the same period, Jan. 12 through Friday. Communist ground fire accounted for the eight other Allied losses.

Another MIG was shot down Saturday in a brief battle over Northwest Korea. One Red jet was reported. F-86 patrols sighted about 90 MIGs.

The Allied losses brought to 26 the number of warplanes shot down in aerial combat and by ground fire within the past two weeks. The 16 losses during the first week in that period were a new high in the Korean war.

Snow flurries fell Saturday on the generally inactive battlefront.

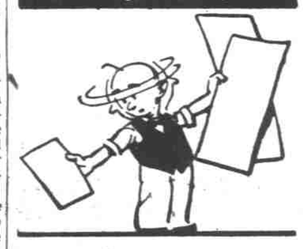
LONG TRAVELS

OSLO (INS)—The 30-year-old Norwegian-American Line's S. S. Stavangerfjord, which recently completed its 500th trans-Atlantic crossing, has traveled a total distance equal to 85 voyages around the world.

Quote for the Day

You will probably get a larger position than you expect when you do larger things than your firm expects you to do.
George C. Hobbs

1951 INCOME TAX PRIMER



THREE WAYS TO FILE RETURN

A. Quick method — Form 1040-A (yellow sheet). Collector computes the tax. You may use if your income in 1951 was less than $5,000 and you do NOT want to itemize deductions or deduct business expense.

B. Another quick method—Short Form 1040. You find your tax in table on Form 1040 (white sheet). You may use if your income was less than $5,000 and you don't want to itemize deductions. Tax table automatically gives 10 per cent deduction allowance.

C. Longest method — Long Form 1040. You must use if your income was $5,000 or more or if you want to itemize deductions such as taxes, interest, contributions and medical expenses exceeding five per cent of income.

Nun Killed by Egypt Group

ISMAILIA, Egypt, Via British Army Communications(AP)Lt. Gen. Sir George Erskine, British Suez Canal Zone commander, said Saturday night a Catholic nun was shot and killed in a French convent here by an Egyptian student group.

One report identified the nun as Sister Anthony and said she was an American. No other identification was immediately available.

The convent, run by the Sisters of Saint Vincent de Paul, was caught in fighting here between British troops and Egyptians.

Erskine said the nun was shot after the students had broken into the convent.

Ismailia normally is out of bounds to the British under an agreement between them and the Egyptian police. However, Erskine declared that "as this slaying is such a monstrous thing," he had felt justified in going in.

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