

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Stays Us No Fear Shall Awe"
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THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

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Business in Election Years

There used to be an idea that election years were bad for business. Come summer and businessmen would manifest their uncertainty by holding off on commitments and purchases. Usually their hopes seemed to rise or fall depending on the prospects of Republican victory. That idea had its root in the free silver campaign of 1896 when capital really was afraid of that "wildman" from Nebraska, William Jennings Bryan.

Statistics however do not back up this notion about poor business in election years. The Cleveland Trust Company whose statistics on business activity reach back to 1790 finds there is no general rule on business trends in election years, "except that they have usually moved in accordance with the business cycle." In individual years a variety of movements have been noted. On the average business follows the pattern of stability the first two months, then a decline to a low point in July, and after that a rising trend. Here is the summary:

In 21 of the 40 election years represented in the series, business activity was higher at the end of the year than at the beginning; and in 19 years it was lower. For 24 years, the monthly average of business activity was above the long-term trend, and for 16 it was below. In the latter comparison, election years made a slightly better showing than non-election years.

The T & T Club

Congressman Gross of Iowa took a crack at the "T and T Club"—the house members who show up in Washington from Tuesday to Thursday each week, and spend long weekends at home. In the course of his remarks he said:

We all remember with revulsion last year's dawdle-and-gag session, whereby with the T and T tourists in the saddle, this Congress marked time Thursday to Tuesday only to reach the end of the year with important legislation piled up. The result then, after months of dawdling, was gag, gag, gag, with important bills, requiring careful study and debate in the public interest, rammed through by way of one kind of gag or another. We can remember all too many instances of this shameful sort of procedure.

The Iowan says he is willing to work six days a week, or seven if necessary "and certainly five days a week" to do the job right. That stand will be approved by his Iowa constituents ... and many others.

America's New Voice

The new \$7 million Voice of America transmitter will be built at Port Angeles, the State Department has finally decided, and from a standpoint of plain drama the choice can't be beat.

Within sight of picturesque Victoria in Canada across the Straits, on the shores of America's farthest-north sea route, and at the tip of the vast and rugged Olympia Peninsula, Port Angeles is considerably off the major beaten track. But it is typically American, in proximity

with a "foreign" country, near the Great Circle route to the Orient and in an area of vital military and naval installations.

Since the Salem area never was in the running for the new Voice, we can sincerely congratulate Port Angeles on being chosen, and express every good wish that its Voice is heard and heeded the world around.

As long as Salem is to have a new map, maybe it could include designations of one-way streets so a person could chart a flight course before leaving home.

Billy Graham is carrying the cudgel of righteousness directly to the center of corruption and he's finding plenty of people in Washington, D. C. to listen to him. Nearly 6,000 heard him blast at wickedness in a single night this week. His reception in Washington is indicative both of the public feeling of revulsion and of the fame which the evangelist has gained.

City Transit Lines have come on for panning in the past because of schedule changes and fare boosts. But this time it can get its share of commendation for its choice of bus drivers. To be sure, the credit actually goes to the drivers themselves—17 of them who went through Salem's traffic without accident in 1951 and have piled up a safe-driving total of 2,242,000 miles. One driver has gone 333,330 miles without accident in 14 years; another recently completed 11 perfect years and still another has passed the 10-year mark "safely." It is a fine record.

Congressman Walter Norblad was the only member of the Oregon delegation in the House to vote against the bill increasing military pay. Angell, Ellsworth and Stockman voted for it.

Animal crack: The squirrel with a poor memory is at a disadvantage in digging up his breakfast on snowy mornings.

In pre-World War II days Mussolini kept France's nerves on edge by having his claque before the palace shout "Tunisia, Tunisia." Now it's the Tunisians themselves who are doing the shouting — and worrying France.

Winston Churchill made a hit with Congress when he declared, "I do not come to ask for money . . ." But he made a trade of tin and aluminum for a million tons of steel.

News writers say heads may roll in the Kremlin when and if Malenkov takes over from Stalin and we can hardly wait.

Taft backers seem to count on General MacArthur to kill off General Eisenhower. Sort of Five Star Finale.

In Kentucky the FBI seized 4,570 slot machines which had a value of a million and a quarter dollars. Where had the sheriff's deputies and city police been all these years?

Taft Control of Southern States Appears to Be Slipping -- But Convention's Five Months Off

By JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON — In the general political hurly burly, too little attention is being paid to news from the South that may decisively influence the struggle for the Republican nomination. In brief, the Southern delegates rounded up by the forces of Senator Robert A. Taft show signs of not staying rounded up after all.

As everyone ought to know, the traffic in Republican delegates from the South is the only branch of the trade in human flesh not outlawed by the 14th Amendment and the Mann Act. The leading practitioner for many a year has been John Marshall, a Washington lawyer and longtime Taft friend. By the exertions of Marshall and other Taft lieutenants, the Taft forces have come into every convention from 1940 onwards with a nice lot of human cattle from the Southern states.

In the current struggle, the Taft camp claims to have secured over 150 Southern delegates already. This herd, if not dispersed before July 7 convention time, will be a Taft asset every bit as important as the Illinois and Ohio delegations.

These facts constitute no criticism of Senator Taft, since the supporters of every other Republican candidate seek Southern delegates in precisely the same manner, and merely carry the superior skill of the Taftian experts. Political human nature being political human nature, the distinctly sordid quadrangle struggle for Southern delegates is an inevitable result of the immense over-representation of the one-party South in the Republican convention. At the same time, there is no doubt at all that serious losses in the Southern delegations will be about the most serious setback the Taft movement can suffer.

All this in turn highlights to

significance of the stirrings in the South since General Dwight D. Eisenhower declared his republicanism and his candidacy. Because the Huey Long dynasty struggle to perpetuate itself afforded the main drama of the recent Louisiana primary, no one has even noticed that the Taft forces in Louisiana simultaneously suffered a heavy setback.

The improbable appearance of two Republican candidates for lieutenant governor caused a republican primary also to be held in Louisiana last week. By some quirk in the Louisiana law, the voting was limited to New Orleans Parish. But in New Orleans Parish, which is, of course, vastly the most important in the state, a pro-Eisenhower faction headed by the able lawyer John M. Wisdom, swept the board. Of 12 places on the state central committee, Eisenhower men took 10; and of 20 places on the parish executive committee, Eisenhower men took 15.

It is not clear as yet whether this heavy initial defeat will upset Republican national committeeman John E. Jackson's traditional control of Louisiana's 13 Republican delegates. Jackson, the Taft leader in the state, can perhaps neutralize Wisdom's triumph in New Orleans by appealing to the other Louisiana parishes. Yet this recent vote of Louisiana Republicans must still be accounted a highly significant straw in the wind. Louisiana can no longer be called in the bag for Taft, which has been the phrase thus far rather complacently used at Taft headquarters. Wisdom claims, indeed, that he will take an Eisenhower delegation to Chicago.

Another state officially claimed as in the bag for Taft was Kentucky. Judge Charles Dawson, Republican Senatorial nominee at the last election and titular leader of Kentucky Republicans, came time ago organized a pro-Taft movement including 105 of the party chieftains in the state. Again, there seemed to be no likelihood that Taft would be successfully challenged in Kentucky until Eisenhower announced.

er men of influence, and former Senator John Sherman Cooper, the Kentucky Republican commanding the widest personal support, is also strongly cooperating. The Taft men got into the field soon enough so that the local experts think they will hold a majority of Kentucky's 25 man delegation, but a split is expected, with an undetermined but valuable share of the delegates going to Eisenhower.

Overall, it can at least be said that the Taft headquarters claims to control almost the whole convention representation of the South, which formerly sounded so convincing, are not really convincing any longer. Taft still has the edge in the South, but the outcome there is uncertain, as it is elsewhere.

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Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? He ascended up the and found there was a difference in the front and rear bedroom.
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "passe?"
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Ratio, embrio, folio, concerto.
4. What does the word "crucible" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with H that means "uneducated?"

ANSWERS
1. Omit up, and say, "difference between." 2. Pronounce pa-sa, first a as in ah, second a as in say, accent second syllable. 3. Embryo. 4. A severe trial or test. "It was the crucible of affliction." 5. Illiterate.

Quote for the Day

A year of self surrender will give larger blessings than four score years of selfishness.

Henry Van Dyke

ANOTHER INFLAMMABLE SWEATER SALESMAN



The Safety Valve

RAIL RATES, EARNINGS, WAGES

In your issue of Jan. 19, the following news item appeared, headlined "Rail Lines Win Increase for Freight Rates," which goes on to explain that Public Utilities Commissioner Charles H. Heltzel has granted an increase of 6 per cent on intrastate freight rates in Oregon.

Also in your issue of Jan. 22, appears a news item headlined, "Oregon Rail Profits Show Sharp Rise" which in turn goes on to explain that, in 1950, the railroads operating in Oregon net operating revenue of \$23,917,478, a gain of \$10,401,457 over the 1949 total. This is a gain of 78 per cent in a period of one year.

The prime purpose of the news is to enlighten and entertain the public. So I have formed in my mind a hypothetical set of news items.

Let's assume that the above news items appeared on the same page, side by side, and in an adjoining column appeared another item headlined, "Engineers, Conductors and Firemen's Request for Pay Raise Ends Second Year in Negotiation," going on to explain the net operating revenues and profits for each.

Who would be enlightened and who would be entertained?

Everett W. Weekley
3385 Fairgrounds Rd.

Popular Compositions Favored for Orchestra

To the Editor:

The report of last night's Portland Symphony program in your today's edition calls for a reply by "the masses," methinks. Being one of these, perhaps I can speak for a goodly group.

The writer laments the fact that the auditorium was only about half filled. To this I will reply that unless the program is greatly altered, at least the seat I occupied will not be filled by me next year.

It would be difficult for me to really believe that the majority of the listeners enjoyed the music. To many of us music is a tonic for the emotions. The expression, "It grows in appreciation with time" refers especially to the heavier compositions which (at least in my case) need to be repeated until I can enjoy following their beauty in every note. And so, if the program is highly technical, and the artists glue their eyes on the score in order to follow the complicated arrangements, and out come sounds and combinations of tones which may appeal to one as "different," well, that I would classify as an acknowledgement that the technic is well proven. And after that proof has been put over to the audience, let's get down off the high perch and enjoy ourselves. I would bet a dollar to a doughnut that the artists themselves would enjoy entering into the beauty of some of the popular compositions a great deal more heartily than to display their accomplishments.

So, for the remaining programs in March, let's try out my claims. One composition to Mr. Sample's liking is enough to prove to us that the musicians "know their stuff." And then let's dive into something the musicians know by heart, and my claim is that everybody would be enjoying themselves (except the conductors whose idea seems to be that labor is more than freedom). But with a capacity house and the appreciation and response of such an audience with THEIR kind of music—well, maybe all might be pleased.

Sam J. Harms
1740 State St.

Reds Achieve Objectives in Korean Talks

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.

Associated Press News Analyst

Have the Communist truce negotiators in Korea got just about all they wanted?

The motives for the ring-around - the - rosy being played at Panmunjom are under constant discussion both in Washington and among U. N. leaders in Korea.

Are the Communists killing time while they prepare for a renewal of the war in force?

Are they hoping to wear down Allied negotiators until their demands are met? The latter is a common Communist tactic whether in a meeting of an infiltrated union in the United States or in an international council. It is considered likely.

To me, it seems more likely that the Communists have gotten just about what they want since they had to give up the idea of a quick conquest with which they started the war.

I always thought, despite the State Department's original predilection for the delay and reinforcement idea, that the Communists needed a truce.

Isn't that just about what they've got since the Allies have permitted the "lull" in fighting to continue beyond the 30 days for which it was originally intended?

Some sporadic ground fighting continues in small patrol clashes, but the situation is more comparable with Balkan border troubles than with actual war.

In general the Communists have created an involvement for the Western powers which interferes with other business and offers no hope of profit, beyond the fundamental profits of demonstrating that aggression will be resisted.

They have an area disputed and disrupted, one like Berlin, where the Allies must maintain

constant contact to avoid enemy advances.

They are tying down troops in Indo-China, Malaya, and a dozen other danger spots for the Allied program of military containment.

The air war continues. In one way, it may prove the greatest material benefit America will get out of the whole Korean show.

There are being tested the machines, training practices and men which may be vital to the defense of the nation later on.

But it is just as vital to Russia for this same purpose, and she may be deliberately participating for that purpose. Korea is for them what Spain was for Germany, Italy and Russia as a proving ground for the last war.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued From Page One)

remained almost stationary: 21.6 mills for city purposes in 1942-43 and 22.4 mills in 1950-51.

How have the city revenues been expended? Department budgets on the ten-year comparative basis were as follows for major departments:

	1942-43	1950-51
Engineer	\$ 28,849	\$224,620
Fire	82,719	396,419
Police	68,919	289,806
Parks	5,807	32,997
Playgrounds	2,170	14,676
Library	14,381	34,633
Health	8,000	25,371
Lighting	17,950	56,215
Airport	none	19,349
Debt Service	111,360	117,233

I believe that our money has been well spent. The city manager plan gives us a bigger and better return for the dollars expended. Maybe we as citizens are demanding too much from our city government.

Offhand it would seem that the city should be able to finance itself on a budget of a million and a half without nicking the already well-plucked geese of business firms for more. At least a diligent effort in that direction should be made.

Comes the Dawn

Salem office of that infernal revenue bureau is overwhelmed by response to printed names of persons who had income tax checks coming from Uncle Sam. Nearly 60 Salem area residents have called the office this week saying they can hardly wait to get their hands on the cash. Salem office refers all callers to the Portland office. One local lady said she had not seen her name in the papers, but a casual acquaintance living in Southern Oregon did—and SHE informed the Salem woman.

Matter of fact about half the jackpoters were informed of their luck by friends—and nearly all had been totally unaware they had any dough coming from the gov'mint . . . Between 300 and 400 money-happy taxpayers have been lining up in front of the Portland office daily. Local luckies can contact the Portland office by mail—and should refer to year of tax refund, address at that time, Social Security number and employer of that year.

Sen. Estes (Mr. Committee) Kefauver's name is to be entered soon in Oregon's Democratic primaries for President . . . And speaking of politics it should be noted that Marion County Coroner Leston W. Howell, the last man whom some voters will ever contact, was the first to file for reelection in the county primaries . . . And Secy. of State Earl Newberry comes up with a reason why some politicians file as candidates for delegates to party conventions: In case they have their sights set for a higher office, this gives them a chance to test their popularity with the voters.

A sight for sore eyes (all bloodshot from looking for lost pennies) is the sign in Clark's Sandwich Shop on Court Street: "Mid-Winter Coffee Sale—5 Cents A Cup."

Vernon Merrick, camp supervisor at MacLaren School for Boys at Woodburn, says the school is really a one-horse institution now. It has tractors, plows and all other farming machinery, but only one horse—and it's kept only because it's a pet of the boys . . . Headline: "California in Path of Vast Pacific Storm"—political, Hollywood or natural? . . . Overheard at Karr's: Two men were discussing a prominent grain product. "I wouldn't touch that stuff with a 10-foot pole," said one. "Not," answered the other, "if you could get your bare hands on it."

FOREIGN STUDENTS

ITHACA, N. Y. (INS)—Cornell University has the largest foreign student enrollment in its history—410 students representing 66 different countries. The group includes 362 men and 48 women, 105 from Europe, 104 from the Far East, 59 from Latin America, 36 from Near and Middle East and 18 from Africa.

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