

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us. No Fear Shall Awe"
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Men and Issues for Next November

Politics is a fascinating game, full of surprises. It is that way because times change, and personalities blossom or fade. Just now the people are watching as the politicians maneuver to set up their favorites for presidential nominations. What they can't be sure of is just what issues or personality will sway the intermediate ten or fifteen per cent which usually decides elections. It looks now as though the big issues that were raging a year ago will not be as influential as then seemed probable. The anti-Acheson, Reds in the government drive is losing its effectiveness. It carried through the 1950 campaign but unless a fresh Alger Hiss is flushed its importance as a political issue will continue to wane.

By the same token McCarthyism is beginning to pale as an object for Democratic invective. Joe is still swinging, but he commands less public attention than he did. Talk is now that the senate committee will not press its hearings on the Benton resolution which looks to the ouster of McCarthy from the Senate.

Corruption in government is still a live issue, but if Truman sidesteps the nomination a new name like that of Kefauver or Stevenson will dull that blade.

The nominees themselves may by their own records lay out the campaign issues. Taft vs. Truman would be a square-off "grudge" fight. But Eisenhower vs. Truman would be a contest of a different kind, as would an Eisenhower vs. most anyone else. Foreign policy will be of prime importance; but domestic issues will sway lots of votes—tariffs, prices, economic controls, "welfare" programs.

Playing for the winner now is considerable of a gamble, and will be until the party conventions are held and the specific issues (not the platforms) become apparent.

Cong. Stockman to Retire

Representative Lowell Stockman has declined to run for reelection as congressman from the second district. He is on his fifth term now and figures that is enough. He wants to get back to good old Umatilla County and his wheat ranch. At least there is one man not overcome with "Potomac fever."

Already announced as a candidate for his post is Giles French, state representative from Sherman-Morrow-Gilliam-Wheeler Counties. Quite a contrast between Stockman and French. The former is tall, the latter short. Stockman is affable; French on the acid side. Both are staunch conservatives, French is far more pungent. In the legislature French has been a positive force and he would quickly distinguish himself in Congress.

A possible contender for the Republican nomination is Sen. Sam Coon who made a good record as a first-term in the last legislature. He is a stock rancher in Baker County. The district, which used to be strongly Democratic has had trouble getting congressional candidates with voter appeal since the days of Walter Pierce.

U. S. Soldiers Will Probably Stay On and On In Europe As Psychological Aid for Peace

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.
AP News Analyst

When will the United States withdraw her troops from Europe?

My friend Howard Blakeslee, a social science Editor whose intellectual curiosity extends far beyond that single field, asked me this past Wednesday.

Thinking of defense program schedules, I almost said "a couple of years." But something stopped me, and when I did reply, it was "why, probably never." Meaning within time that we can foresee.

Harold Callender, veteran foreign correspondent, discussed it in Thursday's New York Times in an dispatch from Paris.

As Europe sees it, he says, the question is: Would United States troops be more or less inclined to keep troops in Europe if Europeans made real progress toward building up an army of their own?

Holland's premier recently expressed fear that completion of a European army might tend to split Europe off from the Atlantic community and hasten the withdrawal of U. S. troops.

American officials have been trying to convince this school of thought that the more Europe does for herself the more America will be inclined to help.

Well, there seems to be little doubt that if a dependable European army is formed, this will be the subject of the "great debate" of 1953 or '54. By that time, Americans will be growing awfully weary of the military program's interference with their hitherto steadily increasing standard of living.

And they may be worried about the possibility of an American army in Europe becoming involved in wars not of our choosing.

There is, of course, the possibility which has been mentioned in this column before, that in-

stead of wanting to bring the troops home, they will be demanding a war "to get it over with."

But if Europe appears to public opinion on this side as able to do for herself the full job of defense against Russian aggression, and if this reduces world tensions as the diplomats hope it will, the question of bringing the boys home will become as real as it was in 1945.

The answer, however, will be that America's war potential will still remain the great deterrent whenever Europe quarrels from now on.

Two great wars have been started by Europeans in this century on the premise that America would not intervene, and on

the possibility that even Britain would not.

American troops in Germany, by their mere presence and vulnerability to attack, resolve the question of American intervention for as long as they are there.

Whoever attacks across Middle Europe will be attacking them, and the aggressor will be at war with the United States.

This is a fundamental of the containment policy designed to keep the peace. As long as there is doubt about Russia's intentions—and that doubt seems likely to exist for as long as we live unless resolved by war—withdrawal of American troops from Europe would be an invitation to disaster.

Congressional Quiz

Q—Is the public debt getting bigger?

A—Yes. Total debt of state and local governments increased about 70 per cent in the last five years, to end fiscal 1951 with \$6.4 billion state and \$20.7 billion local indebtedness. The federal debt is headed upwards again after a post World War II decrease and is expected to climb from \$255.2 billion on June 30, 1952, to \$279.9 billion by June 30, 1953. The legal ceiling is \$275 billion.

Q—Is there much difference in the indebtedness of various states?

A—In the red lead is Utah, which owed \$741,000 as of June 30, 1951. Others with relatively small debts are Nebraska, \$901,000; Nevada, \$955,000; and Idaho \$1.1 million. Pennsylvania had the biggest debt—\$958.5 million—last June 30. New York owed \$934.2 million, California, \$414.9 million and Illinois, \$405.6 million. On a per capita basis, Nebraska's \$0.68 indebtedness was smallest.

Q—What's the smallest federal debt on record?

A—According to Treasury Department data on the size of the debt at the end of each year from 1790 to the present, the rock bottom was \$37,513 in 1835.

The U. S. ended the year 1790 owing \$75.5 million and first went in the red \$1 billion in 1863. The federal debt hit \$12.2 billion in 1918, \$25.4 billion in 1919, \$72.4 billion in 1942, and ended fiscal 1946 at \$269.4 billion after setting the all-time high of \$279.2 billion earlier that year.

Q—How much is the debt, on a per capita basis?

A—The \$259 billion current national debt parceled out to each of the estimated 155.6 million persons in the U. S. would be \$1,665. At the end of fiscal 1946, the per capita federal debt was \$1,908. In 1857 it was 99 cents.

Q—How much does the federal government spend beyond what it takes in each year?

A—Although Uncle Sam balanced the books at the end of fiscal 1951 with a \$3.5 billion profit, the ledger is expected to show deficits of \$8.2 billion on June 30, 1952, and \$14.4 billion for the fiscal year after that. When the government spends more than it collects in taxes, the Treasury borrows to keep in business. Spending and borrowing limits are set by Congress. The President wants to close partially the gap between spending and receipts by a tax increase.

STILL IN THE KITE STAGE



Comes the Dawn

Political mutterings... Joe Meier, Marion County Deputy D. A., is thinking of running for that office—with the blessings of his boss Stadler. Meier might run, that is, if he can get around a technical stumbling block—something to do with a candidate's requirements under voter registration law...



Fellow citizen went to the local federal tax office in the Postoffice building to ask some questions about his income tax. The office was already overflowing with confused taxpayers seeking advice. Our citizen sat down to wait—but noted that the line moved only twice in about 15 minutes. So he walked out of the office, went down the hall to a telephone, phoned the tax office, got his answers, came back to the tax office, picked up his hat and coat and departed—feeling mighty clever.

"Mr. Tomato," Heinz (57 varieties) advertising character, created right here in Salem by Statesman ad dept., is gaining nationwide attention. Mr. T., complete, with monocle, top hat and cutaway, is really Salesman George Riach, who has been appearing in local stores...

Salem aunt of Sobsinger Johnny Ray, Mrs. Reva Davidson, says the wailing wonder never had a piano lesson in his life. Says that, because Johnny had a hearing defect, he was shy and lived in a world of his own. Johnny, she said, used to tinker with the piano and began to make up little tunes and ditties of his own, decided to launch his own one-man musical career and so... When Mr. Emotion stopped in Salem a few minutes the other day his agent wouldn't let him halt long enough even for a press-radio interview.

Salem fire dept.'s new aerial ladder truck is so big that it had to be backed right up against one of the two sliding poles on the main floor. So, of course, came a day when one guy slid down the pole and landed smack on the truck and nearly broke his hook and ladder. So the pole was removed entirely. Now, a warning sign on the station's third floor sleeping deck (for firemen) reads in part: "... In the interest of public safety is recommended you make like Santa Claus—USE THE NORTH POLE."

Quote for the Day

I have learned that success is to be measured, not so much by

the position one has reached in life, as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed.

—Booker T. Washington

GRIN AND BEAR IT

by Lichty



"I just can't get interested... they say NOBODY can win the next war, anyway!"

Recruiters Count 92, Mark Up Biggest Month Since Year Ago

The busiest recruiting month in Salem for a year was chalked up in January, recruiters announced Thursday. Ninety-one men and one woman enlisted in the armed forces.

Biggest group went to the Navy, which accepted 54. This compared to 78 in January a year ago, but during 1951 the monthly high outside January was 36, due to quotas. Chief Eugene L. Loveland said the service is without maximum quotas until Feb. 9.

Air Force enlistees were up slightly at 22, compared to 63 a year ago, before quotas were clamped on. The 11 Army recruits last month were the most in many months, and compared to 12 in January, 1951. The Air Force signed one woman.

The Marines also showed an increase, with four men accepted. The Navy list included:

Arthur LeRoy Cannon, Gary Even Mahnkay, William Otto Herron, Floyd Malcolm MacKinnon, Marshal Bruce Gregson, John Peter Hoffman, Ronald Lewis Stoutenburg, Clifford Arnold Uelzen, Alan Ansgar Olsen, Denver Leon Roberts, Carl Evan Beals, David Elwyn Hill, Wayne Ervin Perry, David Louis Bayer, Dillard Weathers, Melvin Leo Miller, Edward Alfred Reed, Ronald Hayes Eggleston, all of Salem. Wayne Thomas Meale, James Ambrose Meale and Frank Kimb, Canby; Wayburn Alton Smith, Hubbard; Andrew Moirs Herzberg, Aurora; William Harvey Wilson, Monroe; Kenneth Joseph

Boedigheimer, Sublimity; DeWitt Clinton McGheeby, McMinnville; James Cyrus Beasley, Newberg; Marvin Louis Jahn, Brooks; Merwin McMullen, Siletz; Horace William McCarty, Mehama; Raymond Lee Graney, Toledo; Ray Lawrence Hallam, Marion; William Henry Thein, Dallas; Donald Dean Hahn and John Roy Todd, Jefferson; William Lee Fry, Robert Ira Carter and Jimmy Ray Martin, Stayton.

Frank LeRoy Keyton, Grand Ronde; Edmund Leroy Mapes and Gordon Jay Ostrander, Albany; Regil Marnel Lande, Lyons; William Wayne Balchweid, Scio; Dale Higley, Mill City; Charlie Dale Hawes, Lebanon; James Lenance, Robert Francis Peckham, DeLane Riveness, Silverton; Delano Johnston Eggert, William Andrew Mitchell, John Lee Mode, Donald Ernest Booth, Jerome Merle Hagan and Donald Ray Tisdell, all of Willamette.

Air Force enlistees included: Robert F. Bruce, Deryl E. Pruitt, Dean E. Colvin, Charles Phillips Jr., Lonny D. Smith, Ronald E. Caldwell, Doyle G. Porter, Theodore P. Eisner, and Vernon E. Rupp, all of Salem.

Duane S. Gradbery and Edward Havey, Corvallis; Robert E. Oswalt, Monmouth; James W. Savage, Ione; John R. Roy, Lyons; Jack L. Johnson, Stayton; Jack R. Stevenson, Woodburn; Lester E. Belleau, Gervais; Franklin D. Phillips, Independence; Wray Koker, Jefferson; Robert A. Johnson, Dallas; Paul E. Weidley, Nelscott; Richard L. Ray, Tolson. The WAF recruit was Jean L. Brown of Salem.

The Army signed up: Max I. Vogan, Samuel Triplett, Alan W. Gilchrist, Orman O. Gil-dow, Robert G. Dixon and Allen L. Eberth, all of Salem; Elmer A. Diercks, Jefferson; Francis L. Hendricks and Dennis G. Duecha-teau, Sublimity; Glenn M. Harrison, Scotts Mills; Norman R. Heimeyer, Woodburn.

Those enlisted by the Marines were: Robert Foss Houck, John David Case and Richard Louis Roberts, all of Salem; Donald Velmer Stretch, Woodburn.

The first long-distance telephone call was made from Brantford to Paris, Ontario, Canada, by Alexander Graham Bell over 75 years ago.



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"WHAT'S THE GRIPE?"

To the Editor:

The United States District Court records show that the so-called Lafferty O. & C. R. land grant suit was filed by John L. Snyder, et. al. in September 1907 — Lafferty acting as attorney. The purpose of the suit was to force the O. & C. company's successor to sell the remaining lands (2,300,000 acres) to settlers at \$2.50 per acre. Had this suit, rated a hearing and prevailed, the railroad company would have grossed \$5,750,000; but neither the State of Oregon nor her land grant counties would have received a dime; nor would the government recovered an acre of land.

The so-called settlers, becoming owners of a quarter section bearing timber, would have promptly sold it, at a profit, to some logging or lumbering concern; and, when stripped of timber, the land would have been abandoned and sold for delinquent taxes, or bid in by the county.

Under the Chamberlain revestment and administrative Act of 1916, (found necessary under the

decision of the United States Supreme Court in the government's forfeiture suit, O. & C. R. Co., et. al. v. U. S., 238 U. S. 411) the Railroad Company received its due, and the land grant counties their back taxes. And, in addition, the state (until 1937) received 25 per cent of net proceeds of land sales—as did the group of land grant counties. In 1951 the latter received over \$3,000,000. So, what's the gripe, Politics?

Elton Watkins
2686 S. W. Vista
Portland, Ore.

Dave Hoss
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on
Shoreline
Overseas Report
KSLM 1390
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