

'Pirates' Fly Jolly Roger at Capitol



Chained state officials were helpless to prevent the hoisting of the Jolly Roger on the Statehouse flag pole Thursday as Coos Bay Pirates stormed the capital. Awaiting their fate in the center of the picture are, from left, William Healy, assistant secretary of state; State Treasurer Walter Pearson; and Edward Armstrong, governor's aid. At far right is George Vaughn, Coos Bay Pirate's candidate for U.S. president. (Statesman photo.)

Mink-Coated Platform Boasted by Politicking Pirates of Coos Bay

By CONRAD G. PRANGE
Staff Writer, The Statesman

Decrying "petty, political pilfering in office," a crew of Coos Bay Pirates launched their own "campaign for the presidency," in Salem Thursday.

"Down with this small-time political thievery," snarled Candidate George (Chief Skull) Vaughn, Coos Bay lumberman. "Our Pirate-for-President party stands for good, old-fashioned American plundering. We stand on a mink-coated platform."

Vaughn and 31 other pirates, decked out in full buccaneer regalia, "annexed" Salem to their domain. They terrorized the Salem Lions Club at noon and left President Gred G. Starrett hopelessly locked in chains.

Then the loud, gaudy-geared band, took their cutlasses to City Hall and forced Mayor Alfred W. Loucks to provide a police escort to the State Capitol grounds. There they chained and scuttled the dignity of various officials, announced their platform and hoisted a Jolly Roger, pirate flag, on the state flag staff.

"Through a treaty made with the Grants Pass Cavemen," explained Vaughn, "I will, if elected, make a Caveman secretary of the national treasury. He has no pockets and his wife already has a fur coat."

While Vaughn was sounding out potential constituents his crew shot off thunderous charges from a portable cannon.

The Pirates campaign platform, as announced by Vaughn, drew lots of applause from state employees. It included:

To relieve the national metal shortage by taking the brass out of the Pentagon, nameplates off official desks and the lead out of politicians' pants.

Send all the Pentagon personnel to battle fronts and turn the building into a cocktail salon for taxpayers.

Dismiss all government employees who cannot read or write, and to require employees and Congressmen to pass an eighth-grade examination before taking office. This alone is expected to reduce the federal payroll.

All governmental agency rulings and orders to be limited to 50 words.

To dig up the Fort Knox gold.

Alfred Sherva Funeral Held

Funeral services for Alfred Sherva, former Salem resident, were held Wednesday in Boise, Idaho, friends have learned.

Sherva, a wholesale drug salesman for several years, died at the age of 56 in the veterans hospital at Boise. Born in Northwood, N. D., April 13, 1895, he was a veteran of World War I. He resided in Salem for about five years until 1951.

A member of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church and the American Legion, Sherva is survived by his widow, Mildred, in Boise, and a son, James, in Walla Walla, Wash.

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Fontana Sues Liquor Board For \$118,080

Suit was filed in Marion County Circuit Court Thursday by Charles P. Fontana against the Oregon Liquor Control Commission for \$118,080 damages.

In his complaint, Fontana alleges that he was discharged without cause from the commission and would have continued willingly had they allowed him to do so. Fontana had been promoted to the position of lieutenant in the liquor commission in 1947 and had "complied with all the rules and regulations," he contends.

The complaint states that he had been hired by the liquor commission April 1, 1944, with the agreement that he would be employed until his retirement at age 65.

Jury to Study Holmes Case

Wilbur T. Holmes of 1995 Berry St. was bound over to the Marion County grand jury Thursday on a charge of obtaining money by false pretenses.

Holmes waived a preliminary hearing in district court and is held in the county jail in lieu of \$1,500 bail.

City police arrested Holmes on a felony warrant from Marion County in connection with the passing of seven checks in Salem since the first of the year totaling about \$45.

Holmes was arrested in April, 1950, by Salem police on the same charge and sentenced to the Oregon State Penitentiary. He was released last summer.

David Whisler Found Innocent

David Clyde Whisler, Mill City, was acquitted of a charge of rape by a Marion County Circuit Court jury Thursday.

The jury was out about eight hours. Whisler was arrested last Nov. 29 on the complaint of a Gates housewife alleging he had attacked her on a lonely Santiam canyon road.

He was indicted by a county grand jury last Dec. 12, and pleaded innocent.

Auto Hits Pole, Cuts Telephone Line in Keizer

Telephone connections and power were interrupted in the Keizer area Thursday afternoon when a car driven by William H. Pott, 1812 Highland Ave., collided with a telegraph pole, state police reported.

The car reportedly went out of control one mile north of Keizer on the Wheatland Road and plunged into the pole. Pott suffered a few minor scratches, but

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the car is badly damaged. Pott was cited for failure to have a driver's license and is scheduled to appear tomorrow.

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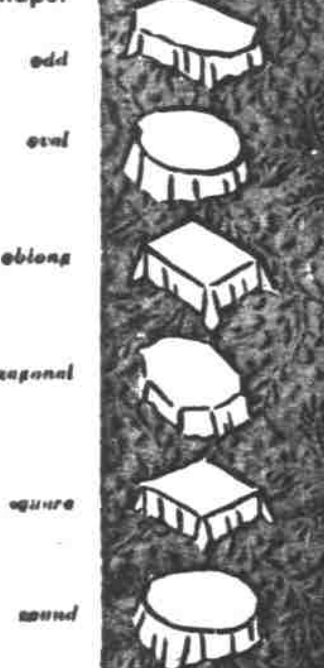
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