

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us No Fear Shall Awe"
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Human Error Held Accountable

A naval board of inquiry has been constituted to investigate the sinking of the destroyer USS Hobson, with loss of 176 crewmen, in a collision with the carrier USS Wasp. Reporters, however, quote informed sources as attributing the accident to "human error." In short, some one in the chain of communication failed to pass along word that the Wasp was turning.

From his recent experience aboard a carrier this writer can understand how the accident occurred. When planes are practicing takeoffs and landings, the accompanying destroyer drops behind. Its duty is to help rescue any pilots whose planes may drop into the sea. The destroyer holds a steady position behind the carrier. The carrier holds its nose into the wind since planes must take off into the wind for greater safety. At the end of the range allotted for the operations the carrier turns downwind, and the destroyer then turns and is ahead of the carrier. Reverse turns are made when the carrier wants again to head into the wind.

The captain on the bridge of the carrier is the one who issues the orders for the carrier's course. A message then goes by radio or signal to the destroyer to alter its course accordingly. In the accident last Saturday night it seems this message wasn't delivered. In the darkness the destroyer crossed at the carrier's bow and was killed so badly it sank in four minutes, trapping men below decks.

The loss of life is greatly to be deplored—the labor given special sanctions by statute. But economic law is even more powerful, and when business reaches the limit of its capacity to raise wages it must call for a showdown. The country is reaching that stage in the inflationary cycle now.

Like the plague of locusts, the country will survive this rash of shutdowns in industry. If they put an effective brake on inflation the results may be salutary even though the cure is costly to all parties concerned.

Industry doesn't pay wages; consumers do through their purchases. They are the ones to make the decision; and consumers resist further price increases.

Barbershop Quartets

One of the polite fictions is that barbers sing. To exploit it we have the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing. But barbers are not given to singing — they don't even whistle while they work. The hoary joke about the barber is over his conversational ability. According to legend he purveys the latest gossip which he can whisper into the ear of his customer as he labors with clippers, shears or razor. The ensheathed patron can offer no resistance. But sing? Who ever heard a barber singing, to say nothing of a quartet of them?

But tooting a horn, that's different. Many's the town band which depended on the barber to blow the alto horn, or maybe the slip trombone. In the intervals between customers, which might be long on the days of midweek, the barber beguiled himself with practicing on his horn. Through the open door flanked by the striped-pole of the barber frequently could be heard the toot-tooting as the barber kept his lip limber and his fingers agile with the keys. One would run out of statistics reporting the number of times bars of "Stars and Stripes Forever" were wafted on the air from the town barbershops of the nation.

No high tenor vocalizing, though, and no reaching for the bottom in "Asleep in the Deep."

Gen. Eisenhower Favors States Rights in Tidelands Issue, Slow to Pick Political Path

By JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON — As primary succeeds primary, the question of what Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower is going to say when he gets home looms daily larger and larger. It is like the famous cloud that was no bigger than a man's hand on the horizon but washed out the sun. So far, we have been given two intimations of the sort of line Gen. Eisenhower may take when he starts discussing domestic policy. On the one hand, replying to a letter from the Rev. Adam Clayton Powell asking for his stand on civil rights, the General has written that his military duties have not allowed him time to reach a conclusion on this difficult issue.

On the other hand, replying to a letter from his chief Texas supporter, Jack Porter, the General has written that "in principle" he favors a return of the federally owned tideland oil resources to the states.

The Eisenhower letter on the tidelands oil problem was carefully phrased. It pointed out that he had previously expressed approval of state ownership of the tidelands "at semi-public dinners—in Texas and elsewhere."

It also pointed out that the Federal government's duty to prevent "unfair exploitation of national resources." But these Eisenhower generalities take on much greater meaning if read in conjunction with the recent Senate vote on the oil companies' bill which would require the Federal government to give the tidelands to the states without further ado.

The three most conspicuous Eisenhower voters in the Senate, Henry Cabot Lodge and Leverett Saltonstall, of Massachusetts, and James Duff, of Pennsylvania, were all absent from the floor when the roll call was read on this bill. Nonetheless, all three took the trouble to have themselves recorded as favorable to the oil companies' states' rights side of the argument. Furthermore, this represented a definite change of heart by at least one of the three Senators.

The practical reason for this curious phenomenon was the Texas delegation. The faction of Sen. Robert A. Taft had been passing the word in Texas that Gen. Eisenhower was "wrong on tidelands." The strong Eisenhower hope of garnering a good number of Texas delegates were therefore growing sadly dim. Hence the most solid evidence was needed that the General would take what almost all Texans regard as the right line on this issue.

This episode is a good symbol of the price that is paid, over and over, in many different forms, and by both the major parties, for our peculiar system of choosing Presidential candidates and financing political campaigns.

What gives the episode special interest is simply the contrast between the Eisenhower letter about the tidelands, and the Eisenhower letter, so cool and distant, about civil rights. In interpreting these signs one might throw in for good measure the recent declaration of the Committee for Economic Development (of which Gen. Eisenhower is a member), favoring a national sales tax to raise additional revenue for defense purposes.

not in the barbershop. All this to-do about barbershop singing is synthetic. All the shaving these quartets do is with a safety razor.

Overruling the Majority

The communities, headed by Portland, which are plunking for daylight saving time, show little regard for the decision of the people on the clock time issue. The 1949 legislature passed a bill to establish standard time throughout the state, leaving, however, the loophole that the governor could proclaim daylight time under certain conditions. Supporters of DST had the bill referred to the people for a vote. The voters upheld the bill by a vote of 277,633 to 195,319. In spite of this, the Portland city council has proclaimed daylight saving time and other cities in Oregon may pursue the same course. To heck with the majority, in other words.

Incidentally, The Statesman opposed this bill when it was before the people, pointing out the confusion that might result from its complex provisions. The people voted for it, however. Last year they got DST and this year they don't know what they have.

Plague of Strikes

Like a visitation of locusts, strikes are hitting the country in essential industries. Steel workers have walked out to shut down the big steel industry. In the Northwest the CIO lumberworkers have gone on strike. Drivers for Pacific Greyhound are still out and the lines not in operation. Western Union is gradually resuming service in spite of the walkout of its unionized operators. Oil workers are quitting their jobs. Verily it's a sad and sorry picture of a breakdown in human (industrial) relations.

The Statesman still is of the opinion the steel companies should have accepted the recommendations of the Wage Stabilization Board, except as to the union shop, as a patriotic duty, even if they didn't like the dosage. When the government reaches out and pulls in youths to send them out to Korea to fight commies, big industry ought to be willing to make certain sacrifices if required and asked of it by the government. Now, we cannot well criticize railroad brotherhoods for rejecting recommendations of wage-finding boards which may not be to their liking.

The whole pattern of strikes now, however, is disturbing. It reveals that business is reaching a "point of no return"—in other words that profits are shrinking in the face of rising costs. That induces resistance of business managers to demands for wage increases and supplemental benefits. Unions now are virtual monopolies of greatest in the Navy in a single accident in many years. It illustrates anew as do so many of our accidents, that, with all our mechanical gear, safety still rests in large measure on the human element.

Credit John Gunther with being both versatile and daring. He has written about the "Insides" of South America, Europe and the USA, a biography of General MacArthur and now one on General Eisenhower. A fluent stylist his books are highly readable, but who else would jump from Mac to Ike in successive books? Fortunately they are not labeled "Inside" the generals.

Multnomah County has been the stronghold of the Democratic party in Oregon. Recent shifts in party registrations there however have reduced the Democratic lead from 24,082 in 1950 to 16,338. That index finger points to GOP victory in November.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

by Lichty



Comes the Dawn

Mrs. Bruce Pickett will have to force herself if she wants to get sore at the Salem police force next time she gets a ticket. The other day she parked at a parking-meter near the Marion on her way to a YWCA fund drive report meeting. She was scratching around in her roomy, satchel-type purse for a penny or a nickel when up comes a cop. Mrs. Pickett begs for time to run into the hotel to get change for the meter. But the cop gallantly digs into his pocket, hands her a nickel and goes about his law-enforcing way.

Delbert J. Ditter of Sublimity comes through with a solution to the daylight vs standard time argument. To wit: Simply remove the time line barrier between the West Coast and the Mountain States—then the coast could have Mountain STANDARD time. This would give the proponents of daylight time the extra hour they want and Oregon would still be on standard time ... Or—how was that again, boy?

If the situation doesn't better itself this week Portland papers are liable to find themselves up to their headlines in a labor dispute. The trouble seems to center between management and the Newspaper Guild over negotiations for a new contract. At last report temperatures were rising ... If you've ever wondered where the boundary lies between the State Capitol grounds and adjoining Willson Park, now is the time to see it plainly. The state's grass is nicely mowed, while the city's stands raggedly up to 6 inches higher.

The mock Republican convention at Willamette University next week will probably be the first smokeless GOP convocation held anywhere. A WU campus ruling prohibits smoking (except under certain conditions) so the convention nominating and platform sessions will take place in the clean, fagless air of the university's gym. However, nighttime strategy sessions, where frayed nerves will scream for a drag, will be held off-campus in traditional smoke-filled rooms.

Martin Rounds, commercial engraver, was one of the first confused citizens to lose a round with daylight saving time. The other night his clock stopped, so in the morning he dialed the phone for the time. But the time signal comes from Portland and is daylight saving time. Rounds failed to note that, set his clock and arrived at work one hour early. Naturally, he blamed the whole thing on his wife.

Political Parade

(Editor's note: Stories in the "Political Parade" are written by or for the candidates, on invitation of The Oregon Statesman, and views expressed herein may or may not be in accordance with the opinion of this newspaper. The articles are published in the public interest, and without obligation on the part of anyone.)

Today's Subject:
JAMES NICHOLSON
Candidate for
CITY COUNCIL (WARD 1)

James H. Nicholson has lived in Salem all of his life and graduated from the University of Oregon in 1939 with a Bachelor of Science Degree.

Following graduation he entered the insurance business with his father, the late James H. Nicholson, who also served as alderman from the first ward for a period of 12 years.

Following his return from three and one half years with the Army Air Forces, the present alderman continued the firm of James H. Nicholson, Inc., and was elected as alderman from the first ward at the inception of the city manager form of municipal government. He has served six years in this capacity and during this period of service he has attempted to influence the enactment of legislation which best serve the majority of the citizens of Salem and Ward 1.

His voting record during this six year period on the city council will reflect the sincerity of his convictions and it is with this thought that he again seeks reelection to the city council from Ward 1.

Nicholson feels the city should encourage the establishment of new industry and the expansion of present industry so far as compatible with sound business practices. He believes Salem's growth and progress assured because of the natural factors of a fine climate and stable agricultural conditions, and that

The Safety Valve

URGES MORE REGISTRARS

To the Editor:
In reply to your editorial "more inducement needed for voter registration."

I believe one of the faults lies with not providing enough permanent registrars about the city and county.

Thanks to the League of Women Voters and a few others there was a concerted effort for a week to get registration in the city and a few registrars were appointed temporarily.

The registrar in the Hollywood district was stopped by the county clerk a week before registration closed—the one week it should have been open.

I know there were over a hundred people who tried to register here in Hollywood that week and were stopped from doing so.

Why not have permanent registrars in all fire stations as some progressive cities do?

P. W. HALE
Salem, Ore.

Honorable B. F. Ramp
One Hundred years
Of gracious giving!
One Hundred years
Of Noble Living!
Student of Political Economy.
Statesman!
Teacher!
God Be With You 'Till We Meet Again!

Lovingly,
Florence Matthes,
Lake Labish

In 1804, Alexander Hamilton, then governor of New York, was killed in a duel at Weehauken, N.J., with Aaron Burr, then vice president of the United States.

with increased power and irrigation plus the prospects of natural gas there is no limit to the prosperity which can be achieved.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page one)

higher duty. Meantime, he holds himself aloof from the political arena, wears his uniform as a shield from political controversy. Thus he disturbs none of his followers, while at the same time he maddens the Taft adherents. So in this state we have those as far apart politically as Senator Wayne L. Morse and Robert Ormond Case both totting the Ike banner. Nationally, we have Morse and Senator Lodge who are among the "internationalist" Republicans in the Senate, backing Eisenhower, along with Congressman Judd, a staunch supporter of Chiang Kai-shek and sharp critic of the Truman-Acheson China policy. Some one, it is easy to foresee, is bound to be disappointed.

As a matter of fact, this pre-convention campaign is not being conducted on a very rational level. The issues before the country, foreign and domestic, are exceedingly grave. About the only one who is discussing the issues is Senator Taft—and the people don't like what he is saying, or else they don't like him. Republicans are asked to accept Eisenhower on faith; and that apparently is what they are doing.

One other factor is prominent, and that is the sedulously cultivated propaganda that Eisenhower is a sure winner. It was the chief burden of Senator Duff's appeal for support of Eisenhower in his speech before Oregon Republicans several months ago. It is the argument advanced as that clincher, topping off the assertion that Republicans MUST win THIS year. That is effective, it must be admitted. It may satisfy the partisan-minded; but is a rather sad reflection on the level of political intelligence—that party victory is more important than determination of national policy through choice of leadership.

In one sense the Eisenhower popularity does reflect opinion on policy. He is credited with being international in his outlook rather than isolationist. That was shown in the results in Wisconsin and Nebraska where the prevailing opinion seems to be isolationist (and Ike lost), and in the results in the internationally-minded seaboard states of the East coast which soon will be joined by Oregon, already conceded to be like territory. To that degree the Republicans are voicing a preference on policy—one which is directly contrary to that prescribed by the majority of Republicans in the Senate.

At any rate, whatever its motive power, the Eisenhower bandwagon is rolling — toward Chicago and toward the White House.

Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "They were quite enthused when they reached the final end of their journey."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "condolence"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Rhubarb, spaghetti, cauliflower, tomatoes.
4. What does the word "regenerate" mean?

ANSWERS
1. Say, "They were quite enthusiastic," and omit "final." 2. Pronounce second o as in dole, and accent second syllable, not the first. 3. Spaghetti. 4. To give new life, strength, or vigor to. "One good thought instilled into a man may regenerate him."

Washington Mirror

New Congress Bill to Benefit Fruit Industry

BY A. ROBERT SMITH
Statesman Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The Senate Banking Committee this week began drafting a new defense production bill which authoritative sources believe will be better for the Northwest fruit industry than the law now on the books.

The committee, working in closed sessions, hopes to have the measure ready for Senate consideration by mid-May. The bill carries authority for continuation of wage-price controls.

A key provision of the present controls act (section 104), which has hurt fruit exports, is expected to be dropped from the new bill and replaced with less restrictive language. Section 104, enacted last July, bans imports into America of dairy products, including cheese, if those imports have the effect of reducing U.S. production of the same commodities.

While giving the dairy industry broad protection from foreign competition, section 104 resulted in the loss of American dollars needed by countries wishing to buy American commodities, including Northwest fruit.

An official of the National Apple Institute cited an instance in which an anticipated order from France for apples was cancelled after the U.S. clamped down on imports of French roquefort cheese.

The new controls bill is expected to reinstate wartime legislation giving the dairy industry adequate protection but not curtailing normal importation of such commodities as specialty cheeses from the Low Countries. Such a modification has been endorsed by the Northwest Horticultural Council.

Controversial section 104, sponsored in the Senate by Sen. Magnuson (D-Wash.), was the subject of a repeal attempt last January, but the move was defeated with the aid of the votes of Oregon's Senators Guy Cordon and Wayne Morse. In the House, Rep. Angell of Portland was the only member of the Oregon delegation to oppose the adoption of section 104 last July.

Col. Lancefield Visits in Salem

Col. Robert L. Lancefield, staff judge advocate of the 8th Army, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Lancefield, and his brother, Dr. Stuart Lancefield, in Salem Tuesday and Wednesday prior to returning to Korea.

Colonel Lancefield spoke last week at a conference of army judge advocates in Charlottesville, Va., which reviewed operations of the army's legal services under the recently-adopted uniform code.

AZALEAS IN BLOSSOM

EVERGREEN
AND MOLLIS
40 VARIETIES

Get acquainted with the new Glenn Dale and Gable hybrids. Very hardy!

Millard Henny

BROOKS, OREGON
Drive out Highway 99 to
sign 2 Miles N. of Brooks

Wage Dispute Brings Salem Taxi Strike

A dispute over wages and a new contract was voiced by union officials as the reason for drivers of Yellow and Capitol Taxicab Company not going to work starting at 6 p. m. Tuesday.

Agreement to the contract by Shorty's Cab Company left them the only company operating in Salem Wednesday.

Arrangements have not been completed for a dissection of the terms of the contract by union officials and owners of the companies. Ward Graham, secretary of the local Teamster Union, stated the union was "willing to discuss the contract and wages." R. L. Clark, manager of the companies, was not available for comment.

Graham stated the drivers are asking \$50 guaranteed for a 60-hour week or 48 per cent—which ever would be best. Under present circumstances the drivers aren't even making \$1 an hour for a 60-hour week," Graham explained.

Also involved in the dispute are terms of vacations for drivers according to union officials.

April Building Permits 'Fair'

A total of 117 building permits were issued by the Salem city engineer's office for the month of April. This was considered by officials of the office to be a "fair" month.

Total evaluation for the permits issued during the month was \$480,947. Of this total only \$45,820 involved alterations and \$435,127 represented new buildings.

Total evaluation for the month of March was \$664,899.

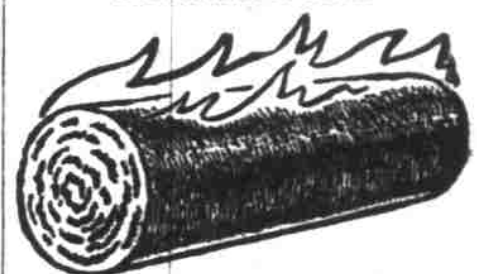
Only one church was constructed during April at a cost of \$12,000. Dr. J. H. Matthes at 34 and an evaluation of \$353,900.



...as a soup bone!

—that's PRES-TO-LOGS

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