

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us No Fear, Shall Awe"
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"City on the Willamette"

"They're going to build, I feel it yet,
A bridge across the Willamette."

That couplet which ended each stanza of a long poem written by Stephen Maybell in Portland in 1870 echoes through the years, spite of its wrong accent on the name of our beautiful river. With true Oregon conservatism, however, Portland didn't get a span across the river until 17 years later when the Morrison Street Bridge was opened as a privately-owned toll bridge.

This is just one of the very interesting bits of history of Portland in a new book, "City on the Willamette," by Percy Maddux (Binford & Mort, Portland; \$3.00). It's a readable narrative of the origin and growth of the present metropolis of the state. Astoria is much older, and Oregon City and Salem for a considerable period were considerably larger; but the combination of easy river transportation to the sea, access to the fertile valleys of the Tualatin and Willamette, and the presence of men of great business acumen soon put Portland to the front. It held that place in the Northwest until the Alaska boom and the coming of more railroads to Puget Sound gave Seattle the lead.

The arrival of the Maddux book drives home the fact that there has been no recent volume of general history of Portland. The salient facts of that history are pretty well known to those of long residence in Oregon, but it is good to have that history recorded in a new book. This one largely derives from secondary sources, but from the story of the tossing of the coin to determine the name of the new city—Portland or Boston—down to that of George L. Baker's kissing the opera star Mary Garden they are so familiar that their authenticity is pretty much assumed.

The site of Portland wasn't one to attract the incoming white people, because it was so heavily wooded. Etienne Lucier located on the east side in 1828 but soon went to French Prairie where others of the French-Canadian retired fur trappers and voyageurs had settled. William Johnson who built the first cabin on the west side in 1842 likewise soon left to move to the settlement on the Prairie. But when A. L. Lovejoy and Francis W. Pettigrove bought the claim of Wm. Overton they decided to lay out a city there, which they did in 1845, and named it Portland (with 60-foot streets). The rest is history, which Maddux dutifully records.

For one thing Portland has enjoyed a continuity which has made of it a well-integrated community. Descendants of early settlers stayed on to improve the city their fathers founded. Store names are old: Olds & King, Meier and Frank, Lipman, Wolfe. The Oregonian is a venerable institution in Portland. Street names preserve the surnames of the pioneers: Couch, Lovejoy, King. In reading the Maddux book one gets their connection with Portland's history.

Transportation was the key to city and regional growth. The rivers provided the easiest early means of transport. Stages provided the land connections. Then came the railroads with figures like Ben Holladay and Henry Villard entering the Oregon scene. And after the trains came motorcars and airplanes.

The flood of 1894, the clash with Chinese cool-

ie labor, the Lewis and Clark fair, the recall of Sheriff Elliott—these and a lot of other bits are woven into the word-tapestry of Portland history. Theaters and theatricals, churches and schools become part of the pattern, too. In fact, the Maddux book gives a sound, practical, plain history of the City on the Willamette which finally got eight bridges to link its sides together.

Hiding Springs of Homicide

Two murders dripped gore in the news columns the past week. A 20-year-old youth killed his mother-by adoption at Astoria and drove off in her car. A man with a pistol entered an office at Columbia University and killed a stenographer he hadn't seen before, out of revenge at the university whose professors had scorned his treatise on "How to Live Forever."

The latter case is clearly one of a twisted brain which developed a mania for homicide. The news, however, gives no clue to what went on in the mind of the Astoria youth to prompt him to his foul deed. Somewhere in the recesses of his thinking apparatus there lurked powerful emotions which his reason could not or did not control. Man is a free agent, but his very freedom gets him into difficulty at times. His inheritance embraces the whole range of instinct. Unless he harnesses it with moral discipline and reason its surges may make a criminal out of him.

Rational, moral beings do not understand why such deplorable and seemingly inexcusable crimes are committed. They simply are due to the fact that society numbers many who are actually or potentially irrational or immoral or both. In the two cases now reported apparently there was little or no index of character until a major crime was committed. Society just has to run the risk of such happenings. It is part of the price we pay for freedom.

The West May Get a New Chance

Premier Mossadegh of Iran, who brought his country to the bankruptcy stage by his fetish against foreign economic "intervention," clipped his own wings in a fit of pique and by so doing may have paved the way for a resurgence of Iran friendship for the West.

The premier resigned when the Shah rejected his demand that he be made his own war minister in a new cabinet. The demand apparently grew out of a lust for added powers which afflicts so many dictators and would-be dictators as they climb to prominence.

Mossadegh, whose delicate nerves and an obvious flair for showmanship brought Iran to a dangerous state of unprotected isolationism, refused to put common-sense above blind nationalism and thus all but stamped the life out of Iran's once-booming oil industry. He refused to settle difficulties with the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company even after the company had proposed a pact which increased many-fold the annual proceeds accruing to the Iranian government.

It remains to be seen whether his successor, Ahmed Qavam, who once before was premier, will be more practical in his approach to Iran's difficulties and more tractable in economic dealings with the West. The Iran government may at last be awakening to its own vulnerability.

Harriman's Candidacy Termed Remarkable Phenomenon; Under-rated by Politicians

By JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP

CHICAGO — Whatever happens to Averell Harriman at this convention, it is at least worth noting that his last-minute presidential candidacy has become a remarkable phenomenon in American politics.

First, there is the transformation of the candidate himself. Harriman did not desire to run, preferring to support Gov. Adlai Stevenson of Illinois. He was originally offered the New York delegation because Paul Fitzpatrick and the other New York leaders had nowhere else to store their delegates.

He had been a great official, but he was a rank amateur in practical politics. He had the handicap of his wealth. And he was only barely able to make a coherent speech.

Yet in a few short months, without anyone as yet noticing it very much, Harriman has transformed both himself and his candidacy by sheer courage and grim determination. The politicians here still under-rate Harriman, because they have not seen him in action. But he always had a way of learning by doing, and he has now learned to be a curiously effective campaigner.

On the stump, he still stumbles. But he has acquired a remarkable knack of conveying passionate sincerity and strong emotion, which very few other politicians have.

President Truman is credited with the remark that "you can make a barefoot boy out of Averell," but the sincerity and emotion Harriman achieves can still be singularly effective. His

people here have a recording of a speech he made in Colorado, which they play to doubters. Even the recording was good enough to change the view of Sen. Hubert Humphrey, no mean platform speaker, at a not insignificant juncture in this convention, that Harriman would never catch the popular imagination in an electoral campaign.

Besides achieving this odd style that imitates Franklin Roosevelt's organ tones and his own hesitant honesty, Harriman has also managed to inspire a remarkable loyalty and devotion in his little band of supporters. The whole Harriman show looks like a youth movement, which is odd in itself in the rather tired Democratic party.

The older liberal Democrats are still hoping for Adlai Stevenson. But Harriman has attracted to himself an extraordinary proportion, if not of the ripe wisdom, at least of the genuine faith and idealism in his party. Whether or not you agree with the views prevalent in Harriman headquarters, it is a rather cheering place to be, if only as proof that idealism still flourishes in odd corners of our political life, and that there are some people left who are not aging cynics or hopeful pay-rollers.

Perhaps this is because Harriman, the richest man in public life, seems to be about the last Democrat who really believes in the New Deal.

Then, too, there is great interest, again whether you approve of it or not, in the underdog Harriman strategy. This strategy is based upon a simple computation. A check of the elections from 1932 onward shows that the whole Southern electoral vote could have gone to the Republicans every time except 1948, and the Democratic party would still have won every time by majorities ranging from 133 electoral votes in 1936 to 39 electoral votes in 1944. Furthermore, if the Wallace Progressives had not drawn votes from the Democrats in New York and other Northern states, the Democrats could have lost the whole South and still won even in 1948.

Hence Harriman and his supporters argue that the Democratic future depends upon a clear, progressive, firm rejection of all compromises with the Southern Conservatives. And it must be said that the arguments sound convincing when you hear Harriman, pale, rather gaunt, yet full of vigor, expounding his thesis in his low-voiced, intense way.

Harriman's trouble is, meanwhile, that he has got to convince this convention, which will take a lot of doing. His favorite motto, "We shall see," is a quotation from Woodrow Wilson. According to Harriman, Wilson once remarked that there were always more liberals than conservatives, but that the liberals marched to their objectives alone and apart, so that the conservatives, who always stuck together, were generally able to pick off the liberals one by one.

In the present case, Harriman's chances would look much better if, for example, he could form a combination with Sen. Estes Kefauver. Sen. Humphrey has sought to arrange just such a combination. But Kefauver, after his hard fight, was not willing to consider second place; and neither was Harriman. Thus all the Harriman leaders are now awaiting the word of the President. Harriman encouraged the Harriman candidacy. He has more than once stated to Harriman that he meant to support him. If the President is faithful to his moral obligation, Harriman will have Truman's support.

But again the trouble is that the expert forecasters here think Truman will limit his support to indicating his personal preference for Harriman, without engaging the prestige of the White House in the Harriman movement. This is because, as of now, most of the professionals do not think Truman can put Harriman over even if the President goes all-out. The outcome is wholly unpredictable. But whatever the outcome may be, Harriman must be credited with a really remarkable try.

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WILL HE CO-OPERATE?



Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

THE CLOSEST KIN THERE IS, by Clara Winston (Harcourt, Brace; \$3)

Father, mother, son Lloyd and daughter Phyllis make up the Dary family through most of this tense, troubled novel.

A younger sister had died. The parents and boy work a big, lonely farm in hilly New England. They believe in life and let live; withdrawn from town, they have little to do with their neighbors, except that young Lloyd has sometimes been driven to find his way through the woods to secret, shameful rendezvous with Olive Eustace. So the farm is more than the word implies, it is a retreat, and they resent being disturbed in it.

After Phyllis' return from Boston, there's no reason left to stir even a step away. She finds a job as teacher, out in the open among children whose parents know the Darys, out where she in effect reminds them to gossip, where she can, unaware, set idle tongues to wagging about the remote Dary place, which the mother has left for a hospital, so that just the fellow and girl remain. She had come home because of her father's warning that all was not well. Instead of averting a crisis, he served only to precipitate it. War has broken out, and the threat of the draft sets the mother to plotting how

Congressional Quiz

Q—Is there any "reference" to keep the political campaigning clean?

A—Chairman Guy M. Gillette (D Iowa) announced July 4 his Elections Subcommittee of the Senate Rules Committee has decided to keep a close watch on the 1952 election and investigate charges of "scurrilous and improper practice."

Q—What became of the proposal to let 18-year-olds vote? A—The Senate Judiciary Committee July 1 approved a resolution calling for a Constitutional amendment to lower the age to 18 (only Georgia lets 18-year-olds vote). To become effective, the proposed amendment has to be approved by two-thirds of both House and Senate and by three-fourths of the states.

Q—How's our progress in development of atomic weapons? A—According to the Raw Materials Subcommittee of the Senate-Atomic Energy Committee, the federal government has not been doing enough to increase U.S. production of uranium and atomic weapons. Reporting to Congress June 29, it said the military forces should use more of their funds in search for raw uranium. It recommended "a very substantial revision in both uranium and thorium procurement."

Q—Where do veterans of Korea stand in the reserve bill? A—Sen. Russell B. Long (D La.), member of the Armed Forces Committee, said the bill "retains a clear expression of Congressional intent" that Korean veterans should not be called as long as there are enough reservists who have made lesser sacrifices.

Q—What does Congress mean when it adjourns "sine die"?

A—Sine die is a Latin phrase meaning "without a day." The 82nd Congress on July 7 adjourned sine die—without setting a day for meeting again until a new congress—the 83rd—convenes Jan. 3, 1953.

Q—Does the new military reserve bill make it easier for the government to call veterans back into uniform?

A—In passing it July 2, Congress intended to limit the President's power to call up reserves. The legislation divides reservists into "ready" and "standby" groups. Ready reserves could be called during an emergency declared by the President, after Congress decided how many should be called. The standby could be called up only with congressional consent, if no ready reserves were available.

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(Copyright 1952 Congressional Quarterly)

Farm Labor Adequate for July Period

For the first time in several years, not one of the 28 local employment offices of the State Unemployment Compensation Commission is reporting a shortage of harvest workers for mid-July.

Although a slight lull usually prevails between peak demands for early berries and later demand for fruit calls for seasonal farm labor, this is the first time when all weekly reports to the employment service agreed on an adequate supply of help.

In about 10 days, however, when the Willamette Valley bean harvest gets well under way, the situation is expected to change, officials said. Most offices in the Eugene-Portland area expect enough pickers for the early crop starting in some sections late this week, but thousands more will be needed during August and early September.

Hops and late fruits beginning next month will add to demands, and a full-scale shortage may develop before many weeks.

Abraham Lincoln was elected captain of a volunteer company in the Black Hawk War.

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Forest Fire Prevention Efforts Boosted in State

Last year thousands of dollars and man hours went up in smoke with 125,000 acres of timber in the worst fire season in 35 years. Most of the fires were caused by negligence of loggers, hunters, farmers, picnickers and smokers who have made state forests the great ash tray of the west.

This year as many thousands of dollars and man hours are being

Iran Premier Stakes Life on Oil Business

By J. M. ROBERTS, JR.
Associated Press News Analyst

Iran's new premier is literally staking his life on his struggle to get the country back into the oil business.

Ahmed Qavam's desire for good relations with Britain made his appointment a direct challenge to the Nationalist fanatics which already have used assassination—in the case of the late Premier Rasmaza—as their chief political weapon.

Qavam's ascendancy represented a rout by the Shah of Dr. Mohammed Mossadegh and those who supported his demands for dictatorial powers.

Mossadegh finally cooked his own goose when he demanded control of the Army, the one great source of power remaining to the Shah.

He was believed ready to cut the Army to get funds to help meet the crisis caused by the oil shut-down.

Nevertheless, Mossadegh's fanatical Nationalists still had overwhelming if ill-informed public support, and Qavam had been expected to move very circumspectly toward some sort of working agreement with the British.

But he and the Shah have now moved boldly—against a background of possible violence and the great danger of assassination for Qavam—to take over the situation.

Instead of moving slowly Qavam had hardly been in office 24 hours when he put out his first peace feeler to Britain.

He made solution of the oil problem the prime objective of his administration.

The Shah moved even more rapidly to give the new regime a curtain of physical protection behind which to carry on its negotiations.

Troops and police were mobilized—disturbed areas of Iran have been under martial law for some time—and immediately broke up two Nationalist political clubs.

Anti-Qavam demonstrators were arrested and the best lookouts because they are the most responsible.

Qavam acquired the name of Iran's strong man when he directed the United Nations fight which, with the aid of the U.S. and Britain, forced Russian troops to go home when they sought to extend into Iran their wartime cooperative occupation of the northern part of the country.

The new premier takes over a country bankrupted by Mossadegh's oil nationalization policy. There is little expectation that this policy can be reversed in the face of fanatical nationalism in the country.

But there is some prospect that it can be modified to the place where a mutually beneficial agreement can be reached for resumed British operation.

If Qavam lives.

Local boards in the Selective Service System cannot grant a registrant a deferment on the grounds of dependency if he has already received his order to report for induction, Thursday said Col. Francis W. Mason, deputy state director.

A man can be deferred, he said, only if he has previously reported the pregnancy of his wife or the actual birth of a child.

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