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"No Favor Sways Us No Fear Shall Awe"
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Shrinking Office of Price Stabilization

The Oregon Office of Price Stabilization suffers under the economy program and on September 1 next fall will reduce its employes from 95 to 37. Bill Logan, who handles information for the Portland OPS, says the released employes will not swing to some XYZ agency as The Statesman said was standard Fair Deal practice: their fate is "NSF." Presumably they have civil service rating and may find openings in the federal establishment elsewhere.

The shrinkage in OPS staff is due to contraction of OPS price responsibility which the agency itself is increasing by "defrosting" numerous items. For instance, Carl C. Donaugh, district director, writes us that ceiling prices no longer are imposed on aircraft, tanks, artillery, guided missles and rockets. He warns, though, that prices on these can't skyrocket because the procurement agencies will handle their pricing.

Price ceilings are off on most canned and frozen foods, and meat allocations and slaughtering restrictions have been abandoned. Fresh fruits and vegetables are "on their own," free from price control, as are transportation rates and fees.

Director Donaugh invites inquiry if information on OPS is desired, and is ready to respond, as a letter from him states, "at least through April 30." This is the terminal date on the last law, and extension of OPS then depends on the state of economic conditions and the political climate which prevail in early 1953. By that time it should be possible to wash out price control, unless the shooting has spread out from Korea.

Chicago: First Whistle-stop

President Truman made the Chicago Democratic convention his first whistle stop. Evidently trying to repeat his 1948 performance, Harry gave Republicans the "old Harry." But it was the cheap and common performance of a politician rather than the utterance of one holding the highest office in the land. His middle border crackle, his slangy jibes, his extravagant assumptions, while characteristic of Truman when he reverts to type, were beneath the dignity of a president even in the atmosphere of a party convention.

Of course, he absorbed all the glory to himself and his party and heaped odium on the Republicans. His catalog was pretty much a repetition of his past political speeches. He even dragged in his slur against the 80th Congress though his own 82nd Congress has been quite as indifferent to his Fair Deal program.

In his recital of Democrat credits, he failed to list the inflationary rise in the cost of living; the halving of the dollar in purchasing power; the impost of taxes higher than ever before in peacetime; the burden of militarism due in part to the failure of foreign policy; the negative program of Communist containment rather than any positive program for settlement of disputes through diplomacy; the long and costly steel strike with his own unlawful assumption of executive power and his own capitulation on price in order to end the strike.

He did not include the tawdry episodes of mink coats and deep freezes and the grosser corruption of agents of the internal revenue bureau, or his own indifference to cleaning out the grafters until his own political standing seemed to be affected. He praised the party platform on civil rights but offered no excuse for the failure of his party to perform in establishing them. He raked the political opposition with his sarcasm but gathered to his bosom the assortment from Dixiecrats to CIO assembled in the coalition of Democracy.

On major issues, President Truman often has risen to levels of statesmanship; but his common walk is still in the field of narrow, partisan, machine politics. A speech like the one he made Friday night is typical; and listening to it makes his early exit from the presidency most welcome.

California has a state bureau to fix the price of milk, as does Oregon. Their policies diverge, however, on the question of a store differential. The Oregon Milk Board has consistently refused to permit one. The California bureau does. Last week it approved a price increase of one-half cent a quart on sales in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties, making the prices 22 cents a quart in stores, 23 cents for home delivery. Oregon voters this fall have to vote on an initiative proposal to limit the price-fixing authority to producer prices, leaving wholesale and retail pricing for the free market. Stores, like Safeway, which want a store differential, support the initiative while producers and most distributors are in opposition. This insures another tough fight in the fall campaign.

Monroe Sweetland must have been chafing at the bit on the third ballot at the Democratic convention. As one of the earliest pathfinders to the governor's mansion in Springfield, his heart belonged to Adlai; but the Oregon "loyalty oath" bound him to vote for Kefauver. Dave Epps of Sweet Home alone made the jump to the bandwagon on that rollcall. With Pink Josslin and Tom Mahoney on guard, Sweetland and Howard Morgan had to stay with the sinking coonskin cap.

Only a few months ago Monsanto Chemical announced its development of a soil conditioner. Now there are 25 brands on the market and more companies are planning to jump into producing conditioners. Between weedkillers, fertilizers and now soil conditioners, it's no wonder stocks of chemical companies are prime favorites with investors.

Now that the Republicans have chosen the only man who had a chance against the Democrats, and the Democrats have chosen the only man who had a chance against the Republican nominee, has any store been thoughtful enough to lay in a stock of earmuffs guaranteed for 3½ months?

Five motorcars now come equipped with power steering — fingertip operation of the wheel. The prime need in steering, however, is for the guidance which will avoid shearing off a telephone pole or sideswiping a passing car.

President Truman walked out of Walter Reed Army Hospital with his face "pink and healthy" and "with a firm stride," and who can blame him for wanting to walk out of the Presidency while in the same condition!

Those Russian women certainly are showing up the females from other countries in the competitions at Helsinki. Of dockhand build, they have superior brawn. We still prefer the USA models even if they can't throw the discus as far as the gal from the USSR.

White Salmon, Wash., residents say they saw a "flying dollar" which appeared to disintegrate as it got over Mt. Adams. That's further than most dollars go before they disintegrate these days.

From the sound of some of those trucks going through Salem recently, it would appear that the steel strike seriously curtailed the production of mufflers.

At least it must be admitted that Gov. Stevenson is not a Yes, Yes man.

Comes the Dawn — by Conrad Prange

(Editor's Note: "Dawn" is still fishing. His vacation ends next week. We hope he is not reading these efforts of his co-workers to fill in for him—they might spoil his fun.)

• • •

A New York landlord is fined $25 for keeping the heat on during a heat wave and two Philadelphia women steal fur coats during 100-degree temperature, and about the only silly thing left for the hot-weather season is formation of a Tommy Manville Former Wives Club . . . speaking of wives, and who doesn't, this recent build-up about a possible woman vice president in 1956 isn't doing our ego any good . . . it'll be a sad day when women get official control of our vices.

• • •

Republicans and Democrats are going to have to find some new words to call each other before November . . . old ones already used up . . . Tom Wright, Statesman staffer and a First Louie at Fort Lewis summer camp, must think his city ed. is still riding herd on him . . . he reported busload of trainees was delayed because bus driver got bit by dog and added "the name of the dog was not available." . . . YMCA campers at Silver Creek are great boosters for the state fish commission—the commission stocked the creek with trout.

• • •

It just doesn't seem to matter who's premier of Iran—we can't either spell or pronounce any of 'em so far . . . Lulton Fewis says "someone, of course, has to bring order out of the chaos in the Democratic party" . . . what, and wreck it completely? . . . (we'd scratch that dig out only the guy that writ it said he'd take a crack at the GOP next time) . . . our Better English column asks what is wrong with the sentence: "I've got five more dollars than him" . . . well, it's only a dollar twenty.

• • •

The great State of Texas says that Oregon swine have vesicular exanthema and it'll be darned if it'll let any Oregon hogs be imported . . . wot a shame—or sham . . . funny part of it is that Oregon doesn't want to export hogs to Texas or anywhere else . . . and other funny part is that Oregon dept. of ag. says our hogs haven't got that unpronounceable stuff anyway . . . so, same to you, Texas, and your oil wells smell (but we'd like em).

• • •

Leather Industries says Americans are getting twice as much mileage out of shoes as 50 years ago because of technological advances . . . other reason may be that lots of us haven't much choice in the matter—it's no longer stylish to paddle down State Street barefoot . . . and while you've got your shoes on, you might as well trot around and decide how you want the weather . . . our operator says readings on these new storefront thermometers about town vary by 30 degrees . . . so does the price of sandals.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page one)

a few independents who determined to press for Stevenson's nomination. So the nominee is not a creature of Jake Arvey's.

The smell of a deal was imagined when Illinois switched its vote to admit Virginia's delegation; but the latter and the great majority of the other delegates from the South remained loyal to Russell. He did not abandon his candidacy until the previous surrender of Harriman and Kefauver already had determined the nomination. Stevenson, therefore, begins his campaign free of any embarrassing promises, and with a showing of party solidarity which is surprising after the days of bitter contention between the Northern liberals and the Southern conservatives.

Stevenson's speech of acceptance was in great contrast to the week of heavy oratory that had been poured on the convention, and most sharply in contrast with the soapbox cacklings of Harry Truman who preceded him on the speaker's platform. Nothing of the armwaving grandiloquence of Vice President Barkley or the sonorous superlatives of most of the party hacks who had paraded before the microphones. Stevenson's address was of a high order of sincerity, intelligence and dignity. His thrust at the opposition ("both Republican parties" . . . "split personality") was sharp but not labored. (Of course, he ignored the fact that the Democratic party has a worse case of schizophrenia than the Republicans). He showed a freshness in ideas and in style which certainly was a relief for the weary delegates and the radio audience after many days of perfervid oratory.

In his welcoming address to the convention on Monday, Stevenson had revealed this originality of thought and expression, as the following paragraph will show:

"Where we have erred, let there be no denial. Self-criticism is the secret weapon of democracy. Words calculated to catch everyone, catch no one. We dare not look back to great yesterdays. We must look forward to great tomorrows. Who leads us is less important than what leads us. A man doesn't save a century or a civilization, but a militant party wedded to principle can. What America needs and the world wants is not bombast, abuse and double talk, but a sober message of firm faith and confidence.

Such talk may be too highbrow for some. It scorns the Santa Claus mask which Truman and others wore. It is free from the catchphrases of the pettifoggers and the dead cats of ordinary campaign oratory.

Stevenson showed in his acceptance speech an awareness of the seriousness of the time and of the burden which the presidency in the next four years will impose on any incumbent. Such an awareness is a first step toward political maturity.

The Democrats have put forward an honest and an able man, who lacks the vanity of Franklin D. Roosevelt and the pettiness and cockiness of Harry S. Truman. His experience on the national and international scene is limited, and his name is not widely known. But he will make a vigorous campaign against the popular and widely-known General Eisenhower. The people will have the opportunity choosing between the two; and may do so with the comforting feeling that each is a man of high ability and fine integrity.

Again in 1952, the party convention system so roundly criticized by students of political science, has roared and wrestled —and brought forth MEN.

Salem's Social Security Office 15 Years Old, Growing Rapidly

Fifteen years ago Saturday, a Salem office opened without income or outgo. Now it has a three million dollar annual business. That's the Old Age and Survivors Insurance Bureau of the U. S. Social Security Administration.

Richard C. Stillwell, who had been raising chickens in Washington County after other federal duties, established the office here and has remained as manager continuously except for a short absence to star the Eugene office.

Miss Ethel Rydell, a claims assistant, is the only other member of the original staff of three still on the job. The staff now numbers nine.

When Stillwell came here, he recalled Friday, social security was only six months old and was involved only in old age insurance. Benefits for survivors were added later, and payments of both kinds of benefits began in 1940.

The growth, due both to increased numbers of persons covered by social security and to the liberalized benefits, has been from 500 payees getting some $125,000 in 1940 to more than 8,000 persons receiving more than three million dollars in 1952. The office handles Benton, Polk, Lincoln, Linn and Marion Counties.

Half in Marion

Beneficiaries in Marion County now comprise almost exactly one-half the five-county total and get nearly two million dollars per year, a figure that is increasing about $3,000 weekly. Average payment is some $600 annually. Polk County has some 800 persons receiving benefits of about $300,000 per year.

About one-half those who are sent checks are wives of children of the aged or survivors of the deceased.

For the first few years, the office's prime job was issuance of social security account numbers to individuals, which is continuing at the rate of some 100 per week.

Seek Beneficiaries

Now the main task is receiving applications for benefits, checking them, watching for possible beneficiaries who do not know they are eligible and awarding of claims. The latter is in charge of Oscar M. Donaldson Jr., assistant manager.

Stillwell said the past week has been the busiest since 1950, due to recent liberalizing of the law's provisions. During the week 84 new claims were filed and 106 were approved. As of yesterday, the claim docket showed 166 pending cases, of which only five had been filed prior to July 1.

Because the benefits are not on the basis of need but only on the basis of past contributions by workers, Stillwell said some persons who are retiring now with small nesteggs are able to use them for travel or other luxuries and depend on social security for steady life income. During one recent week, 15 claimants said they planned to make long-dreamed-of trips to their native lands across the seas.

The Salem office of the bureau now is located in the Courtway Building on Court Street, after earlier sites in the Oregon Building and Postoffice.

CLERIC AIDS CONGO GREEKS

LEOPOLDVILLE, Belgian Congo (AP)—The large Greek colony in the Belgian Congo is getting schools for their children and churches in which to worship in their own Greek Orthodox religion. Fr. Meletios, chrystophe representative of the Greek Orthodox Church in the Northern Congo since 1948, has built several churches and chapels. Recently he opened his first Greek boarding school at Bunia in the Northeastern Congo. He now has 60 pupils.

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Eisenhower. Stevenson Not Far Apart on Foreign Issues; Differ on Domestic Policies

WASHINGTON — Domestic issues will loom large in the Presidential campaign, judging from a Congressional Quarterly survey of stands of Dwight D. Eisenhower, Republican nominee, and Illinois Gov. Adlai Stevenson, the Democrats' choice.

Coincidentally, both the nominees are relatively recent arrivals on the national political scene and details of their stands still are emerging. But recent statements seem to indicate that their foreign policy disagreements will be mostly one of method or degree. Both see world communism as a growing menace, place stress on collective security and aid to free nations.

Stevenson's domestic policies seemingly paralled those of the head of his party, President Harry S. Truman, more closely than than they do those of Eisenhower. Stevenson has spoken out for revision of the Taft-Hartley labor relations law, often criticized by Truman; for economic controls; and for health insurance (if socialization of medicine can be avoided). Eisenhower has placed more emphasis on the dangers of high taxes and on reducing federal spending.

As late entries in the campaign —Stevenson made no campaign at all for the nomination—the opponents have not clashed on some questions that may have a vital bearing on the November decision. Comparable stands were available, for CQ's survey, on four major foreign and eight domestic issues:

FOREIGN POLICY

Isolationism and Allies

EISENHOWER: "When I am in a thing like this (fight against communism) I believe in helping everybody who is on my side." (New York press conference 6-7-52) "In the international arena, where complete isolation would be eventual suicide, we have loyal allies; even the least among them is not to be written off." (Columbia speech, 6-8-50)

STEVENSON: "The great experiment in collective security on which we embarked in 1945 is still in the long run our best chance for peace." (Foreign Affairs magazine article by Stevenson, April, 1952.)

Korea

EISENHOWER: "I believe we have got to stand firm and to take every possible step we can to reduce our losses and to stand right there and try to get a decent armistice . . . I do not believe that in the present situation there is any clean-cut answer to bringing the Korean War to a successful conclusion." (Abilene press conference, 6-5-52)

STEVENSON: "I think there is good reason to believe that the resolute action by the UN in Korea not only gained time in the East but saved NATO in the West. The alternative was to surrender all possible positions of strength, to enfeeble if not destroy the grand alliance of the free — and then, perhaps, to resort in desperation to a general war when our moral, political and strategic position had been weakened disastrously."

Foreign Aid

EISENHOWER: "If we allow Western Europe to fall within the Communist orbit the danger to us is so highly increased that our expenses will leap up, the cost will be so great as to be back-breaking and we'll be in mortal danger." (Abilene press conference, 6-5-52). On the othhand, Eisenhower has said he did not believe "that the United States can pick up the world on its economic, financial and military shoulders and carry it." (Address to Congress, 2-1-51).

STEVENSON: "The Democratic Party should continue to stress in the future, as it has in the past, the necessity for mobilizing our strength, both military and economic, in support of the free nations of the world . . . and the stepping up of the kind of technical help provided under the point four program."

Communism

EISENHOWER: "Soviet doctrine insist that communism may not coexist in the world with a free system of government, and therefore by every means open to them, subversion, bribery, corruption, threat of force, that they are going to destroy our form of government . . . My own opinion is that we can produce a situation in the world where they may modify that statement that intention, and therefore get to a position at least where we can work out a method of living with them." (New York press conference, 6-7-52)

STEVENSON: "Any retreat or hesitation on our part in the face of Communist imperialism and its imminent threat to Asia and Europe in this time of sensitive balance would quickly lead to the collapse of the grand alliance of the free world. Now is the time to push ahead with that alliance." (Quoted in Progressive magazine, March, 1952.)

Tomorrow: Domestic Views
(Copy. 1952, Cong. Quart.)

Literary Guidepost

"SKYLINES"

A new book of verse by an Oregon poet, published by an Oregon publishing house, is a literary event in the state. And "Skylines," by Ethel Romig Fuller is poetry of which Oregonians may well be proud.

Concerned with people and nature, Mrs. Fuller's verse combines a technique so good as to be unapparent with a gift for glorifying the common things; an economy of expression with a spontaneous and delightful imagry. Her verses are sturdy and succinct; they do not founder in the bog of obscurity and mysticism so popular in certain schools of contemporary poetry. She is at her best in lyrics, which is her most common form of expression. "Skylines," however, contains a few fine sonnets and some free verse, of which the most out-standing is "Blue Windflower."

Of Mrs. Fuller it might well be said, "She is in love with mountains, and she transmits some of their age-old mystery and undying beauty to her readers. One climbs the trail with her and beholds the view, listening to the philosophy of wind and space and meditating upon the unknown.

Her poetry is refreshing, it's music borne upon the laughter of wind and water, with an undertone of depth founded in rock. Her eyes are quick to catch the flit of a blue wing, the glint of water beyond the firs; her ears to hear the music of distant falls, and her heart explores farther to meanings beyond and hidden.

Ethel Romig Fuller, although born in Michigan, has most of her life in Oregon. An early student of Mable Holmes Parsons, who conducted poetry classes in the University of Oregon extension school in Portland, she has dedicated this, her third book of poetry, to Mrs. Parsons. For years, Mrs. Fuller has been editor of "Oregon Verse," in the Portland Oregonian.

Of late years Mrs. Fuller and her husband, a retired businessman of Portland, have made their home high in the Cascades beyond Seattle, where they have transformed their acres into a glorious rock garden of Alpine plants. "Skylines" is largely the fruit of these years. There she culled the best of her work, as yet not appearing in book form, for this collection. It places Mrs. Fuller with the best of contemporary poets and is a fine representation of the Pacific Northwest in poetry.

"Skylines" appeared in May, by Binfords and Mort of Portland.

—Mrs. Lou P. Aiken

THIS SOCK FITS ANYBODY

NEW YORK (AP)- A boon for the man who can never remember the size of his own foot is a new nylon sock designed to fit any foot. Its manufacturer (Chester H. Roth Co.) says the 6-by-3 rib nylon will encompass any foot without bunching or wrinkling. There is no rubber in the all-nylon hoisery, the firm says, making it readily washable and quick drying. It claims the sock is the first to be made with heels to fit any foot.