

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us No Fear Shall Ave"  
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## Poland Copies Russia

Quite steadily the process of converting the satellite states into the pattern of the USSR proceeds. The various purges serve to extinguish deviation and local loyalties. And now Poland is adopting a Russian-style constitution. Under this the office of president is abolished, elections will be on the one-party plan. The new parliament will elect a Council of State of 15 members, resembling the Supreme Soviet Presidium. There will be a Council of Ministers which will be along with the Council of State, the executive and administrative authority in Poland.

When the country is duly hammered to Communist malleability perhaps it will be incorporated in the USSR as the "People's Republic of Poland." Others of the satellites seem headed in that direction. They are under complete Russian domination now, but perhaps Moscow thinks the people are still nationalists at heart and is not ready to arouse their anger and world antagonism by the act of annexation.

Russia is the greatest imperialist nation of the 20th century, just as currently it is the major threat to world peace. Yet Russia broadcasts its propaganda of peace and brands the Western powers as the warmongers. But then regard for truth was never a Communist characteristic.

The Aluminum Company of America has just concluded a contract of five years' length with an AFL union of its workers. It provides an immediate wage increase and annual increases of four cents an hour, with wage adjustments on a quarterly basis based on fluctuations of the cost-of-living index. It follows the pattern of the General Motors contract. Such longer-term contracts make a real contribution to industrial peace and economic welfare not only for the principals but to the communities and the country. With any settling down of the late inflationary cycle it ought to be possible to give most contracts a longer span than just a year. Workers surely should welcome contracts that insure peace for as much as five years.

## Thrifty Americans

For all their spendthrift characteristics Americans are great savers too. Last year, according to the Federal Reserve Board they built up their savings and cash holdings in record amount—\$10.3 billion. Bank deposits increased \$4.9 billion in checking accounts and \$3.1 in savings accounts. Another two billion increase was reported in deposits in savings and loan institutions. Holdings of plain cash increased \$900 million and holdings of U. S. government securities went up \$400 million.

Considering the need for diverting production to war goods in 1951 this increase in savings was healthy. Spending all this money would have produced greater inflation. Thrifty Americans are holding their savings for the rainy day of need or the buying opportunity that might come with reduced prices.

While government is the big spender, the level of economic activity depends in the end on the buying and selling of the 150 million Americans in the routine of daily living. That they are saving more than they are spending is

in pleasing contrast with the over-spending of the government. There is a point where too much saving pinches the economy; but that wasn't reached in 1951. We do not want Americans to be misers; neither do we want them to be loose with their money. These extra savings will come in handy some day. Besides the population is growing and we need to accumulate more capital for the business expansion which is required.

Value of metals—gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc—mined in Oregon has sagged from a total of \$4,148,000 in 1940 to \$290,181 in 1951. Gold has been far and away the chief item in value on this list; but gold mining has never recovered from wartime shutdown and the war and postwar inflation. Little lead mining for these metals is carried on now, most of the gold recovery being from placer operations. About the only activity in metal production now is in chrome ore in Southern Oregon under the government's stockpile program. However the M. A. Hanna Co. of Ohio is still doing exploratory work on Nickel Mountain near Riddle. When it comes to wealth in metals Oregon is on the short end at present.

While business in general stood up very well in spite of the crippling and prolonged steel strike the effects of that tieup will be felt for a long time to come. A million or two workers made idle for nearly two months, producing no goods or services and getting no wages can't help but do damage to the financial health of the country. Part of the shutdown may be regarded as a vacation just a little longer than usual; but the consequences will be paid for in reduced buying for a considerable period as workers and others seek to pay their debts and recoup their losses.

Eleanor Aldrich Forrester, who has been covering the conventions with her husband Bud Forrester of the Pendleton East Oregonian does a personal observation story for her paper in which she quotes some one as saying the Republicans resemble Rotarians and the Democrats Kiwanians. From the vantage point of a distant radio receiving set we'd say the Democrats were more like the Salem Lions club with Leo Reiman doing the tail-twisting.

If Sen. Harry Byrd had been a strong contender for the Democratic nomination how ardent would the Young Turks—Blair Moody, Frankie Jr., and Jack Kroll, CIO—been for the loyalty oath at the Democratic conclave? One can easily imagine their howls of resistance against attempts of the Southern branch to put a gag in their mouths.

Governor Stevenson owns a substantial but not a controlling interest in the Bloomington Telegraph, a leading daily in Illinois. He worked on the paper for a time a number of years ago. Incidentally the Telegraph was an ardent supporter of Taft for the GOP nomination.

When you hear of candidates ganging up to "block" another candidate, then it's time to put your money on the latter.

## American Political Conventions May Be Illogical Cruel, Riotous, But They Work

By JOSEPH and STEWART  
ALSO

CHICAGO — The scene is the innermost of the great stone circles at Stonehenge, the time, perhaps three thousand years ago. By the stone of sacrifice, stands the chief Druid, and all about, in eager, or dazed ranks, are all the tribes of neolithic Britain. The druids are over. The dancers have retired. The moment has come. The king of the old year is led to the altar, to be killed with the mistletoe dagger, and to rise again in the body of the king of the year to come.

It may seem a bit odd to be thinking about these ancient ceremonies amid the sordid litter which the political conventions have left behind here in Chicago. But American political conventions none the less strongly resemble the great gatherings of the tribes, at which the old peoples of the past sought to insure successful harvests and victory in war by cruel and traditional rites.

Certainly there is the same spirit of elation, of collectively induced excitement which made the old people truly believe that the prosperity of the year depended on the year-king. Certainly, there are human sacrifices, although no blood flows for television. And sheer bitterness of disappointed ambition is the substitute for the mistletoe-dagger. And the end purpose and result are certainly much the same.

In fact, in a queer way, one can even say American presidential election is much like a year-king, being held responsible, as the year-kings were, for giving the

tribe both victory and plenty, and being doomed as well to something very like extinction when his term runs out.

All of which is relevant at the moment because it seems to these reporters that the time has come to pay tribute to the American convention system. These great quadrennial tribal gatherings of ours may be illogically organized, and no doubt are. They may be singularly sordid in many of their aspects; as to this no one would argue. They may have traditional outward rhyme or reason that they drive foreign spectators almost mad with puzzlement, which is always a funny convention-time sight.

But the main fact about the convention system is that it works, like so many other outwardly illogical but effective and adaptable American political institutions. Perhaps this is the American political genius, to mingle pragmatism and tradition in just the right proportions. We have a good many political contraptions which look like inventions of Rube Goldberg yet produce immeasurably better results than the carefully thought out designs of the political theorists.

A lot of people who think that politics ought to be logical have been talking, recently, about abolishing conventions for national primaries. But in the first place, the national primary would inflict on us the equivalent of two elections, hand-running, when even one is bad enough. In the second place, the national primary could never achieve the delicate adjustment of regional viewpoints, personal and popular interests, economic and social influences, which each political convention somehow achieves.

And in the third place, it is impossible to imagine a national primary doing better than these last Democratic and Republican conventions, which have given the country two such candidates for president as Dwight D. Eisenhower and Adlai E. Stevenson. Nor are trading a deal and rumor-spreading and false promising by any means the truly important features of the

convention process, although they often seem so important on the surface.

Individual motives may be cheap and self-serving, but the collective motive—the purpose of the convention as a gathering of the tribes—quite often takes on a quality of nobility. The individual delegates may be venomously partisan, they may only want to get or keep jobs, they may be under the lash of some petty boss or labor or business potentate. But when the tribesmen are in their seats and coming up to a ballot, the cheapness tend to cancel one another out, and the strongest influence somehow becomes a genuine collective care for the future of the country.

Moreover, every convention has its moments of individual generosity and high character which one remembers after all the anger and bitterness have faded.

From the Republican Convention, one recalls General Eisenhower's warm gesture, when he hastened to call on Senator Taft, and the fine courage in defeat that Taft showed in those hard hours. From the Democratic rally, one recalls the way Truman placed national interest above petty personal irritations, to help out over Stevenson. And one recalls to the magnanimity of Averell Harriman, who was not well served by some of his liberal supporters, yet who never failed to fight first for his cause and to think of himself only second.

Altogether, if you think of them in the right way, these two conventions which are now concluded have been inspiring experiences. They have not lacked the customary squalor. There has been plenty of that. But they showed that America has a remarkable wealth of vigorous, patriotic and able men in both parties. They exhibited the splendid vitality and adaptability of our political life. And they named two men of whom any American ought to be warmly proud. The Druids could not have done as well.

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## GRIN AND BEAR IT

by Lichty



## Hollywood on Parade

By GENE HANDSAKER

HOLLYWOOD — Most Hollywood players are characters trying to prove they can act. Not Angela Lansbury.

"I've had to start all over again," the London-born actress said one warm recent afternoon as we communed epically across tall iced teas. "I want to convince people that I'm not just a competent actress to put in any kind of role, I want to convince them I'm capable of using my own personality and not covering it up with seven characterizations."

In other words, she wants to be liked, by moviegoers, for herself alone. Not for the role she's playing.

What is this real, so far role-hidden Angela Lansbury like? "That's hard to say," she conceded, her big blue eyes candid. "It's much easier to cover up myself in some other character than play myself. It's far easier to play a neurotic than be natural. You've got so many tricks to hang on to."

A Lansbury representative put in: "We're trying to get over to the public that this gal is only 26 years old and has a figure."

I asked Angela for his measurements: 5 feet 7 inches, 36 bust, 25 waist, 36 hips. She "felt real good" when a Chicago exhibitor

billed her in one film as Angela "Legs" Lansbury.

"They've always been covered up by 10 petticoats and eight dresses," she mused.

Angela, now a freelance, made 14 movies in seven years at MGM. Most of her characterizations made her seem older than she is. Tough, chief dance hall girl (when she was 19) in "The Harvey Girls"; a forthright newspaper publisher in "State of the Union"; "Walter Pidgeon's embittered wife in "If Winter Comes."

"My mistake was in not playing some parts badly, so I'd be thrown out," Angela reflected. "Instead, I'd always think, 'I'll play the guts out of this—and I'd get good reviews.' She also picked up a couple of Academy award nominations in "Gaslight" and "The Picture of Dorian Gray."

Miss Lansbury thinks her next step is to find a good New York show. Both a straight play and a musical are probable for her there. She takes singing lessons three or four days a week. She'll tour Eastern summer theaters for nine weeks in a play called "The Gracery Ghost." Her four-month-old son, Anthony Peter, and a nurse will go along. Her husband, Peter Shaw, has to stay here. He's a Hollywood agent.

## Congressional Quiz

Q—If the President's April 8 steel plant seizure was unlawful, how could he seize the industry under the Selective Service Act?

A—The April 8 action was based on his "inherent powers" as President, and on that basis was ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. However, under the Selective Service Act, the President has the right to seize any plant that "refuses or fails to fill direct orders placed by the Defense Department within the period of time prescribed by the President."

Q—What is "Senate Rule 22" the Democrats argued about at the convention?

A—It provides for ending debate so opponents of a bill can't "talk it to death" by indefinitely delaying a vote. Under present rules debate can be halted only if two-thirds (64 of the 96 Senators) so vote. The issue now is "hot" because a rules change next January might open the way for Senate voting on civil rights. Civil rights advocates say without a change in Senate rules, "civil rights pledges mean nothing."

(Copy, 1952, Cong. Quart.)

Q—Just how many of President Truman's legislative proposals won Congressional approval?

A—Congressional Quarterly's Boxscore on the President and the three Congresses elected since he took office shows that 464 times he asked lawmakers for legislative action (the figure includes some requests repeated each year) and Congress carried out 199 of his plans. His batting average for the six years (1947-1952) thus was 42.9 per cent.

Q—Did the President's record of success in getting Congress to carry out his ideas for new laws get better or worse through the years?

A—The percentages of his legislative proposals enacted by Congress dropped each year for the last six, according to the Congressional Quarterly Boxscore. In 1947, Congress passed 47.6 per cent of his requests. In 1951, the Truman batting average fell to 40.3 and this year it skidded to 34.8.

(Copy, 1952, Cong. Quart.)

## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page one)

members of the highway committees of the last legislature, and those who are concerned about the proper financing of our highway system and provision of adequate funds for its modernization.

Not all the truck groups are linked with Oregon Highway Council. Monday the Associated Forest Industries who are deeply interested in long and lumber trucking, took action through its board of trustees in opposition to the truck initiative. What they foresee is that it would affect them seriously and adversely. Their trucks are of high horsepower, which on a graduated scale would be stuck with a heavy license fee, but their annual mileage on public roads is usually very short. It looks to them as though the long-distance freight truckers would through the initiative roll off their fair share of cost of highways on to the log truckers. Private motor car owners also foresee that if this amendment carries the gas tax would have to be raised to help cover the loss in highway revenues, a further subsidy to the long haul trucks.

Counties and cities have a definite stake in the results of the election because they share by a fixed percentage in the highway revenues. Already they have lost through the referral of HB 465. They would lose more if the weight-mileage basis of taxing trucks using highways were abandoned and no adequate substitute provided.

The weight-mile principle of taxing trucks using the highways is based on sound engineering and economic reasoning. Modern highways and bridges to carry heavy truck traffic are expensive to build and maintain. Assessing the charge by the weight-mile method is a fair way of measuring the use of the highway, and is a proper levy in addition to the license fee and the fuel tax.

## Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "As I take it, there is quite a little business to be completed."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "Gaelic"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Simultaneous, sinister, silhouette.
4. What does the word "indomitable" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with la that means "lewd; lustful"?

ANSWERS

1. Say, "As I understand, there is (omit quite) a little business to be completed." "Quite" means wholly or entirely. 2. Pronounce as though spelled gay-lick. 3. Silhouette. 4. Not to be subdued. "Indomitable" spirit won the victory. 5. Lascivious.

## Stevenson Gained Reputation As Federal Trouble Shooter

CHICAGO (AP)—Democratic presidential nominee Adlai E. Stevenson is an easily liked individual with an incandescent smile and sparkling eyes.

His voice is warm and resonant, tinged with an Ivy League accent. And he can make a sparkling address, as was evidenced by his acceptance speech.

Many people who know him believe the 52-year-old Illinois Governor was sincere when he insisted almost daily and even on the night of his nomination that he did not want to be a presidential candidate.

The balding middle-aged man solemnly told reporters after the nomination, "I didn't seek it, I didn't want it." But he accepted "with humility."

Relaxed and in good humor, he jumped into national politics with apparent relish.

Stevenson was propelled toward the highest office in the land primarily by his record smashing election as Illinois' Governor in 1948. Behind that is an impressive trouble shooting career in federal appointive posts.

### Assistant to Knox

His first federal appointment was as a legal aid for the Agricultural Adjustment Administration under the New Deal in 1933. He later served on the alcohol control administration and as a special assistant to Navy Secretary Frank Knox. During World War II he did military defense survey work in the Caribbean, the Pacific and traveled in Africa and Europe.

Perhaps his most important assignment up to that time was as chief of a Foreign Economic Administration mission in Italy. Its purpose was to plan for relief and rehabilitation of the liberated areas.

In 1945 the State Department asked Stevenson to promote public understanding of the forthcoming United Nations conference at San Francisco.

### Delegate to U. N.

He performed creditably and subsequently served as a senior advisor to the U. S. delegation and as an alternate delegate to the U. N.

The striking point of Stevenson's election as governor was that he polled 539,000 more Illinois votes than President Truman.

## Red Version of U. S. Politics Most Confusing

By WILLIAM L. RYAN  
AP Foreign News Analyst

That much-bewildered character, the average Soviet reader, must be more confused than ever today.

To hear his newspapers tell it, an American who votes Republican in November will really be voting Democratic. And the American who votes Democratic will be upholding the most conservative of Republicans—but in any event, President Truman, who is not running at all, cannot lose.

Before the Republican convention, Moscow described Sen. Robert A. Taft as the guardian of midwestern financial interests and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower as the choice of Wall Street.

Then, taking no chances, the Moscow press carefully added that Wall Street also had a hand in the candidacy of Senator Taft.

At the same time, it told its readers, Eisenhower's selection was a deal cooked up by the warmongers, Wall Street and President Truman, described as hand in glove with dark forces among the Republicans interested in promoting a new war.

This was only the beginning. With the nomination by the Democrats of Gov. Adlai Stevenson, Moscow had to reach for a fuller explanation. It came up with this:

Stevenson is really the guardian of the big financial interests of the middle west.

He was nominated because he was "selected by the biggest business circles in the United States."

Thus, reasons Mr. Average Reader of Moscow, if Eisenhower is the candidate of Wall Street, then the biggest business circles in the United States must be elsewhere, although you'd never have known it to read Pravda up to now.

Now, this makes Stevenson and Taft both guardians of the same mysterious big business interests of the middle west. Put that way, Stevenson is really a Taft man!

At this point, Mr. Muscovite Average Reader, getting a firm grip on himself, reads that Stevenson was selected by the Democratic convention on orders from President Truman, just in case President Truman's real favorite—Eisenhower—should lose out.

In this way both President Truman and Wall Street were sure to win.

Now Mr. Muscovite Average Reader is more than a little confused on several counts.

Why, he might ask, if Stevenson really is a Taft man, did not President Truman say so at the time and support Taft in the first place?

How is it also that President Truman cannot be sure Eisenhower will win? Didn't Pravda say America was a police state?

As is well known — Mr. Average Reader in Moscow uses that phrase frequently — there is no question about who wins the election in the Soviet Union, which everybody knows is the most democratic in the world.

Yet here is President Truman, at the head of the police state, having to choose a second candidate in case his favorite loses. This must mean the American voter has a choice between candidates.

This is not the way Comrade Stalin arranged things.

## Tennessean to Back Eisenhower

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., (AP)—A Tennessee delegate to the Democratic National Convention said Sunday he plans to form a Democrats-For-Eisenhower Club after the state Democratic primary Aug. 7.

Jack Comer, alternate, revealed his intention in a statement to Guy L. Smith, Republican state chairman and editor of the Knoxville Journal.

Comer said he did not feel he was bound by the loyalty oath because of what he called the big city bosses' "ruthless tactics plus their manner in wringing this oath from us."

## Street Extension Request Made

Requests for opening Ellis Avenue eastward to Park Avenue were under consideration Monday by Marion County Court, after an inspection of the area.

Latest request for the change came Monday from Abrams, Bourland and Skinner real estate firm. Along with earlier reports, it held that extension of the street would provide better access for children from the area attending the new Hoover School.

in the West, moved to Illinois.

### Several Degrees

The son, after study in Switzerland, took degrees at Princeton, Harvard Law School and Northwestern University.

He married the socially prominent Ellen Borden of Chicago in 1928. They have three sons, Adlai III, 21, now in the U. S. Marines at Quantico, Va.; Borden, 19, a Harvard student, and John Fell, 16, a student at Milton Academy, Milton, Mass.

Mrs. Stevenson obtained a divorce in 1949 on grounds of incompatibility. Some sources said increasing demands of public life upon Stevenson helped break up the marriage.

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