

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us No Fear Shall Awe"
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New Atomic Energy Plant

The Atomic Energy Commission is locating a new plant for separation of U-235 from uranium ore at Portsmouth, Ohio. Also it announces expansion of facilities at Hanford, Wash., Paducah, Ken., Oak Ridge, Tenn., and Savannah River, S. C. Other important installations are at Arco, Idaho and Los Alamos, New Mexico, and minor installations elsewhere over the country. Appropriations for the commission to spend run into billions annually.

The new plant at Portsmouth will cost \$1,200,000,000 and that probably is only the initial outlay. Some 34,000 workers will be employed in the construction period and then around 4,500 regularly. The requirement for electric energy will run to 1,800,000 kilowatts capacity which will be supplied by a group of utility companies.

The purpose of the expansion program is to speed up the production of atomic weapons for stockpile purposes to be ready for any eventuality. These include not only the atom bomb but smaller units which may be used by ground artillery; and the hydrogen bomb is presumed to be in the final stages of experimentation.

It is unfortunate that the people must be kept so much in the dark with respect to these enormous expenditures. Only a select few of civil officials and military officers and members of the Congress know just what is being accomplished and what definitely is being planned. The rest of the people have to take things on faith. Secrecy surrounds the processes employed and the projects undertaken. The people will be content to remain in ignorance under existing world conditions; but they certainly are going to hold the authorities accountable if our country loses out in the atomic race. We have poured out the billions, spared no expense, incurred the usual waste of a vast new government undertaking; what we have a right to expect is the security which atomic fission promises. Not that we hope our stockpile ever will be put to the test—rather that, in view of Russia's demonstrated ability to find out what is going on, it will know better than to precipitate a war in which atomic weapons would be turned loose on a helpless world.

Arnall vs. Sawyer on Prices

The administration experts do not seem to agree. Price Controller Arnall whose resignation has not been accepted has doleful warnings of price inflation because of the increase in steel prices and the drought. Secretary of Commerce Sawyer comes out with a counter prediction. He finds nothing alarming in the prospect, and sharply criticizes guesswork—which was intended to put Arnall in his place. Sawyer says he has found no evidence of widespread price increases as a result of the drought and reports that manufacturers expect to absorb most of the rise in steel prices.

We'll string along with Sawyer this time. Food supplies will be ample in spite of the drought in certain states. The steel shutdown prevented a surplus from building up due to increased plant capacity. In a few months the loss in production will be covered. As for prices inflationary pressures are not strong. The continued federal deficit and government buying for rearmament may push prices up some. Or they may serve chiefly as a prop to prevent price drops. As for food prices the farm program of the gov-

ernment provides what Cong. Javits calls "built-in inflation."

Arnall and Sawyer each seems to be looking at the world through glasses of their own special interest. As price controller Arnall is grieved because he doesn't have more legal power. As Secretary of Commerce Sawyer wants to have business move along steadily without sharp ups and downs. The administration is naturally interested in price stability at present and not at all in deflation of producer prices or sharp increases in living costs. Sawyer's formula seems about right.

Recalling the facts attending their appointment to the State Tax Commission the Portland Journal uses the occasion of the resignation of Commissioner Robert Maclean to hold the door open for the exit of Commissioner Ray Smith. It notes that with the retirement of State Treasurer Pearson from office in January Maclean's tenure doubtless would terminate in June anyway. Since Smith was in the same package he may feel the call to return to private life before long. The Statesman expressed its extreme disgust at the appointments when made, as replacements of Earl Fisher and Wallace S. Wharton. It recognizes, however, that Maclean had made consistent effort to get county assessors to bring property valuations up to date, and has met with some success.

They have mowed the grass in Willson Park. It's not much of a job. The grass is so brown there is little to cut. The lawn is sadly in need of rehabilitation: fertilizer and water, more water. The adjoining statehouse lawn is in pretty fair shape, likewise the lawn at the postoffice block; but the city has not kept up the lawn on Willson Park—which as we have said before should be the show window of the town. Can't our new park advisory board get something done at Willson Park?

Something new has been added—a new political party. Whereas the usual new party is more radical than the one it divides from, this one is more conservative. The promoter shows his hand when he suggests General Douglas MacArthur as candidate for president and Sen. Harry F. Byrd for vice president. He says though his party will not be organized in time for the 1952 campaign, which probably means it never will be.

The U. S. marines had a tough go to capture and hold Siberia hill and Bunker ridge in Korea from the Reds. The hill had changed hands several times. Then the marines seized it and went on to capture the ridge which dominated the hill. Real estate is high-priced in Korea, and this bit was, particularly to the Communists. If the war there is to be resumed some tactics will be needed to achieve victory with less sacrifice.

The state fair is to feature television this year. But that will not be for the first time. When Max Gehlar was state Director of Agriculture in charge of the fair in the early 1930s he arranged for a television performance. It worked too. Dr. Kerr, then Chancellor of the state system of higher education talked, and his picture was reproduced in an adjoining tent.

U. S. Government, in Desperation, Suggests Anglo-American Support of Dr. Mossadegh

By JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON—The danger in Iran is now rated "desperate" by the State Department. The danger is, of course, the capture of Iran by Iran's Communist controlled Tudeh party, which would drastically alter the world balance of power in favor of the Soviet Union. The problem of dealing effectively with this danger is so immensely difficult that it has already split the American Government from top to bottom, and threatens to cause an open break on Middle Eastern policy between this country and Great Britain.

In order to deal with the danger, the State Department has actually proposed Anglo-American economic support for the regime of Iranian Prime Minister, Mohammed Mossadegh, to the British Foreign Office. The British Cabinet is now anxiously discussing this American proposal. It goes without saying that the notion of supporting Mossadegh, the very symbol of Middle Eastern nationalism and hatred of Britain, is hardly welcome to the British. But what has happened very recently in Iran explains why the American proposal has been made. Since the ignominious collapse of the short-lived regime of former Premier Ahmed Qavam a few weeks ago, the only remaining visible alternative to Mossadegh in Iran is a wrinkled old man with a long beard and a permanent grin, the Mullah Kashani. Kashani wants to turn the Iranian clock back all the way to the fifteenth century, transforming Iran into a Moslem theocracy ruled by the Mullah Kashani. His chief instrument to

this end is the Fedayan Islam, a "Murder Inc." consisting of the slum-dwelling bully-boys and priestly assassins. But in order to gain power, Kashani is perfectly willing to ally himself with the Communist Tudeh party. He did just this when the Fedayan Islam and the Tudeh together rioted bloodily in the streets to force Qavam out of power.

Qavam went to the palace to plead with the Shah to call out the army. The Shah was afraid to do so—one exasperated diplomat in Tehran was heard to observe "when they took out the Shah's appendix a few months back they must have taken out his guts with it." After four days in power, Qavam fled for his life, and Mossadegh came back. Instantly, Kashani took full credit for this outcome. He dictated his own election as President of the Iranian Parliament, and he is so powerful that Mossadegh is now in danger of becoming a mere captive of this ignorant and bloodthirsty old man.

This is the real reason for Mossadegh's demand for dictatorial powers and martial law. Mossadegh and Kashani have long been joined in an uneasy alliance, because Kashani's thugs have been useful in putting the fear of God into Mossadegh's opponents. But Mossadegh has long suspected Kashani's real purpose—about four months ago he even promised the Shah to kick Kashani out of the country. And now Mossadegh badly needs the means to control Kashani—and Kashani professes to be anti-Communist, but he often talks something very close to the straight Moscow line, as he did to one of these reporters in Iran last autumn. He says airily of the Communists, "I will chew them up and then swallow them and spit out the parts I don't want." Observers on the spot have no doubt at all that the Communists would ultimately do the swallowing. Meanwhile, Kashani and his fanatical Moslem followers are preparing the way for the Communists, busily stirring the peasants and the slum-dwellers to a mood of revolt. Kashani is, in brief,

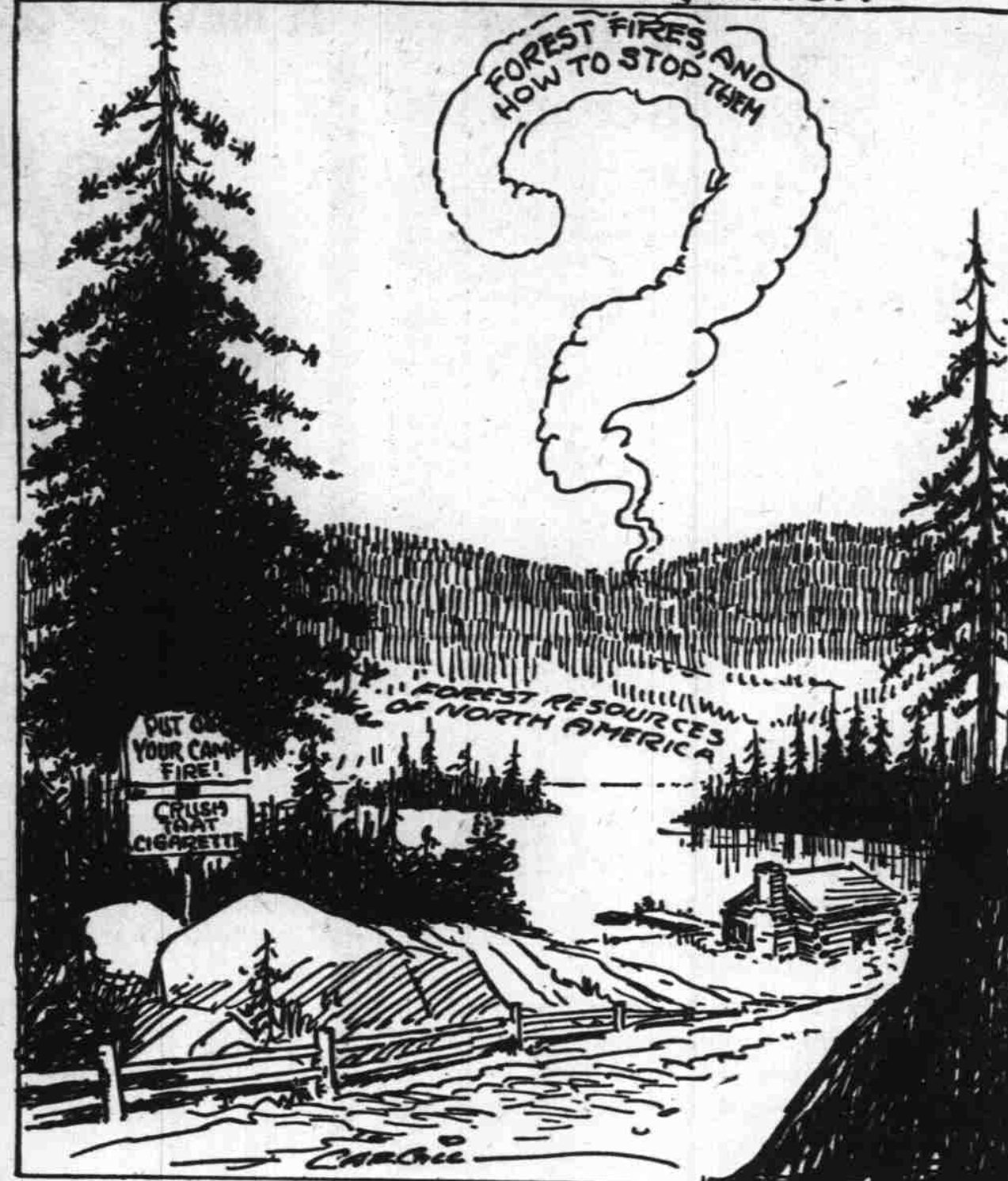
the very prototype of a Middle East Keresky.

Yet Mossadegh's regime is in immediate danger of economic chaos and disintegration. If it collapses, the way will be open for Kashani—and Kashani's unsavory allies. This prospect recently caused the State Department policy makers to study carefully the probable consequences of a Communist capture of Iran. They decided that it "could not be tolerated." Communist control of Iran would make up the Soviet oil deficits and give the Soviets an almost unchallengeable position in the strategically vital Middle East.

At the same time the Joint Chiefs of Staff also considered Iran. They had a good look at American world commitments and they ruled that no American forces could be spared to prevent an internal Communist seizure of Iran. This left the American government saying that a Communist capture of Iran could not be tolerated, but that nothing much would be done to prevent it. The planners were reduced to considering such hopeless expedients as convert support of the Iranian tribesmen, in case the Communist took power. The conclusion was obvious. The total economic collapse of the Mossadegh regime cannot be allowed to happen, simply because the alternative would almost certainly be a great deal worse than Mossadegh. Hence the proposal to the British.

The probable British reaction may be judged from the fact that British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden recently protested angrily to Secretary of State Dean Acheson against the American Point 4 program in Iran, on the grounds that the program strengthened the villainous Mossadegh. Moreover, the British have perfectly solid ground for complaint against past American policy in Iran. But as things stand, there is surely logic in the American view that it is more important to keep Iran out of Soviet hands than to pay off old scores against Mossadegh.

EVERY YEAR A BIGGER QUESTION



Comes the Dawn

A. B. Perkins, 535 N. Winter St., has some unusual papers which make pretty good reading in these days of talks and squawks about personal freedom. The Perkins' papers are old, yellowed, handwritten deeds concerning sale of Negroes. One is a bill of sale, issued in Morgan County, (state not mentioned) and reads: "Received of William Perkins one hundred and ninety dollars in full for Negro boy Roy Cone, aged eleven years." William was one of A. B.'s ancestors.

The other paper is a copy of "deed of slaves," written in Ouachita Parish, Louisiana, June 22, 1863. It notes the sale of "Little Sam, Negro man, aged about 27... Levi, aged about 31... Edmund White, aged about 26... and Scipio, Negro man, aged about 47, all slaves for life." The seller guarantees the slaves sound in mind and body. The four men sold for \$7,500 cash in hand. Makes you think, doesn't it?

That drought in the mid-west really gave news photographers a field day... Snapping pixes of weatherbeaten farmers letting the dry farm sift through their fingers as they lifted faces to the skies praying for rain... Kids standing in fields among withered crops... Just like those WPA-days pictures taken in the dust-bowls... That telethon staged by Hope and Crosby a few weeks ago and which got viewers to pledge more than \$1,000,000 for the U.S. Olympic Fund, has fizzled a little. Not all the pledges are coming in. And Telemeter people, (pay as you see TV) are saying that if their brand of cash-and-carry TV was used all the pledges would have been made in the hard cash of the realm.

A new logger with a new log truck was hauling his first load the other day near Salem when the state weighmaster told him his load was overweight and to legalize it. As the conscientious logger was turning his truck around he dumped the logs. Up comes a state patrolman and tells him to get the logs off the road within 24 hours. Finally our laboring logger got someone to help him tote the logs across the road to the far side. Up comes another lawman and hands him a \$50 ticket for blocking the road. When last heard from the logger was still struggling with the logs and laws.

Fashion note—They're now adding scent to yard goods. Which means that soon the wife can make a \$3.98 rag smell like a \$50 creation. ("My Dear, what a lovely new dress! And the smell exactly matches your figure.")... The Chinese pheasant population at the Salem airport is getting a lively workout these days from the local dog population. Stray (and some not-so-stray) canines run themselves ragged chasing the birds. Normally the pheasants are an easy-going bunch of birds, but when the dogs stir them up they create a dandy hazard for planes.

GRIN AND BEAR IT by Lichty



"Since the wife became active in her club committee work, I feel unimportant, frittering away my time earning a living..."

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued From Page One)

are in the Solid South and one in equally solid-for-Democrats Rhode Island. The Republicans have to add three to their present 46 to gain a majority; and with only nine states where prospects may be considered good it will take a landslide to shift party control of the Senate.

Listed as "safe" for Republicans are: Maine, Frederick Payne; Nebraska, Hugh Butler and Dwight Griswold; Vermont, Ralph E. Flanders; North Dakota, William Langer; California, William F. Knowland. "Probably safe": Wisconsin, Joseph R. McCarthy; Minnesota, Edward J. Thye.

Democrats in "safe" listing are: Rhode Island, John O. Pastore; Virginia, Harry F. Byrd; Mississippi, John C. Stennis; Texas, Price Daniel; Florida, Spessard L. Holland; Tennessee, Albert Gore. "Probably safe": West Virginia, Harley M. Kilgore; Kentucky, Thomas R. Underwood.

Republican seats which will have to be fought for include: Massachusetts, Henry Cabot Lodge Jr.; New York, Irving M. Ives; New Jersey, H. Alexander Smith; Delaware, John J. Williams; Pennsylvania, Edward Martin; Ohio, John W. Bricker; Indiana, William E. Jenner; Missouri, James P. Kem; Montana, Zales N. Ecton; Utah, Arthur V. Watkins; Nevada, George W. Malone; Washington, Harry P. Cain. Democratic seats which will be under fire include: Connecticut, William Benton and vacant seat of Brien McMahon; Maryland, George Mahoney; Michigan, Blair Moody; Wyoming, Joseph C. O'Mahoney; New Mexico, Dennis Chavez; Arizona, Ernest W. McFarland.

Looking the list over one is forced to admit the Republican

troit." 2. Pronounce fe-kund, e as in fee, u as in rut, accent first syllable. 3. Pneumonia. 4. Keen; piercingly effective. "He tells a story of poignant sorrow." 5. Flotsam.

chances for capturing control of the Senate are pretty dim unless General Eisenhower can lead a charge that will sweep away the opposition.

Longyearbyen, administrative capital of Spitsbergen, was named for John M. Longyear, a Bostonian.

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