

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 25, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

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Published every morning. Business office 215 S Commercial, Salem, Oregon. Telephone 2-2441.
Entered at the postoffice at Salem, Oregon, as second class matter under act of congress March 3, 1879.

Legion Would Oust Acheson

For the third time the national convention of the American Legion has demanded the ouster of Dean Acheson as Secretary of State. For the third time President Truman has refused to yield to the demand. In this instance one with Truman is a majority.

With Acheson due for retirement at the end of the Truman term one would think the Legion could have spared him another kick in the pants. Since none of the speakers at the Democratic national convention gave Acheson the slightest compliment perhaps the Legion felt free to give him the verbal boot again. The Legion resolution accused the State department of failing to take adequate steps against "the obvious determination of the Communists to continue their grim and bloody advances throughout the world."

The Statesman, would like to speak a word in Acheson's behalf, though the Legion has thrice condemned him and his own party has deserted him. The facts do not support the resolution's contention that the State department has failed to take adequate steps against Communist aggression. The Truman doctrine of containment was announced in 1947. It was extreme, but it was implemented in Greece and Turkey to their security from the Reds. The Marshall plan followed which has effectively shored up the economy and the political stability of western Europe. Acheson, himself worked out the NATO plan for mutual defense of the West. The anchor in Berlin was held by means of the airlift.

On the other side of the world China succumbed to internal Communist revolution, the genesis and expansion of which antedated Acheson's term as Secretary of State. Through the active work of John Foster Dulles as consultant a peace treaty with Japan was signed. Other treaties provide for mutual defense in the Far East.

Acheson's policy has followed that of General Marshall to build up strength on the theory that we are better prepared to face up to Russia when in a strong military posture than when weak militarily. That is precisely Legion doctrine. In fact its resolution calls for strengthening "the military, political and economic effectiveness" of NATO. A more valid criticism of the Acheson policy, in our judgment, is that it has made too little use of other weapons: diplomacy, honest propaganda, seizing the initiative for peace. The Acheson-Marshall thesis has been, after repeated failures in conferences, that Russia responds only to a show of military strength. Perhaps; but expert use of these other tools might have left Russia on the defensive, propaganda-wise.

Whether the Acheson "perimeter of defense" which excluded Korea was an invitation to North Koreans to invade the Republic must await further research. At the present moment, it looks like a blunder. But there was no hesitancy on the part of the State department in moving to resist that aggression through UN when it began. Now the Legion calls for a "military victory" in Korea, and demands "definite and immediate changes in the foreign policy" with no clear outline of what those changes should be or how they would assure victory.

It is absurd to blame on one man or small group of men in the United States the Russian postwar expansion. It was made by absorption from a contiguous border which this country under several Secretaries of State was unable to halt. And even now there is no clear outline on how Russia may be driven back within its historic borders. In the longer scale of

history Acheson will loom as a man of stature who served his country well in a critical hour.

Another resolution of the Legion convention seems to this paper to be founded on false information. That was one calling on congressional committees and the Attorney General to investigate the American Civil Liberties Union on suspicion that it is a Communist or Communist-front organization. Whether the resolution passed or not we do not know.

The ACLU exists simply and solely to defend the civil liberties guaranteed in the bill of rights. Ever since 1940 it has barred from its governing bodies or staff adherents of Communist or other totalitarian doctrine. It has appeared in many cases to defend rights of minorities, such as Negroes, to protect persons in the exercise of religious freedom, and others, sometimes even Communists, in defense of their personal rights. As far back as the Dies committee the ACLU was formally recognized as non-Communist; and it has never been listed among the Attorney General's catalog of subversive organizations. Actually its officers invite fair investigation of its activities. The ACLU often steps in to defend persons or causes that are unpopular (such as the right of a labor organizer to speak in a Southern mill town) and then the convenient epithet of Communism may be thrown at it. But it is just what its name implies, as American as the bill of rights. Incidentally the chairman of the ACLU board is Ernest Angell, one of the founders of the Willard Straight post of the American Legion.

We credit the Legion with intense patriotism, born of its members' experience in military service; but sometimes its ardent loyalty leads it to untenable positions. In the cases cited Acheson will serve out the Truman term, and the ACLU will continue its sometimes troublesome but always honestly designed course.

Dan Tobin, veteran president of the powerful Teamsters' union is going to retire. His successor will be chosen at the annual convention of the union in Los Angeles (still pronounced Los Angeles) in October. Tobin's choice is Dave Beck, who has been vice president of the union and for many years its West Coast chief. Beck professes to want to live in Seattle, and union leaders in the East are said to oppose his election as national president. Old Dan is powerful however, and so is Beck; and if they agree on the succession Beck would be the probable choice of the convention. Beck has been a dominating figure in Seattle and has thrown his weight around in politics in Washington state. Business men have pretty much met his terms; but he has a good many foes in his city and state. They may welcome his shift to national office in Indianapolis.

The papers report that Ike is going to "come up swinging" and Stevenson is beginning to give Ike the "acid treatment." It seems a political campaign has to resemble a wrestling match: the customers demand a certain amount of mayhem and blood-letting. A sane, intelligent discussion of issues has to be larded with acid sprays or punctuated with torpedo blastings of the opposition. Well, the country has survived a good many such campaigns, and can do so again. We wonder, though, if the vituperation changes any votes.

So many cases of accident or being trapped in caves have been reported this season we are learning how to spell "speleologist."

Democrats' Daniel Beards Legion Lion with Own Brand of Patriotism, Choice of Words

By JOSEPH ALSOP

NEW YORK — To open his campaign for the Presidency, Adlai Stevenson went before the American Legion as Daniel Beards, the lion of the den. Like Daniel, he came out unscathed and in glory. It was a virtuoso performance. And the fact that he was faced by Republicans as well as jubilated over by the Democrats — this extraordinary gift of words of Stevenson's is going to play a dominating part in the campaign.

Long before Stevenson entered Madison Square Garden, copies of his speech had been distributed, and it was apparent that he had chosen the role of Daniel deliberately, with astute courage. The word went round, "If he can make them take this, he can make anybody take anything," and that was not far from the truth.

Stevenson had chosen patriotism as his theme. But Stevenson's definition of patriotism firmly excluded most of the things the American Legion's leaders have called patriotic. McCarthyism was roundly and ruthlessly condemned, and not so long after the Legion had conferred a medal on McCarthy. Which-hunts for subversives in the school system—another specialty of many state Legions—were crisply rebuked. And Stevenson even flatly warned the Legion that he would resist all pressures for excessive veterans' benefits—which was a bit like Daniel telling the lions to be vegetarians.

With the fact already known that Stevenson would say these and other unpalatable things to the great hall-full of assembled

Legionnaires, there was drama in the candidate's entrance. The galleries, which were filled by non-Legionnaire Stevenson supporters, cheered their heads off; but at first there did not seem to be much enthusiasm on the floor for this small, plump man with the plain but expressive face, who accepted his welcome with such amiable self-confidence.

Then the introductions were over, and Stevenson began to speak. Humor in politics is highly unconventional, except in the "it-reminds-me-of-a-story" form; and dry wit is utterly unknown. Yet the little man with the light, almost exuberantly cultivated voice chose to poke dry fun at his audience in his warm-up. And when he teased the Legionnaires about their convention-time habits, saying that he knew they were much too busy visiting New York's museums and art galleries to want to give much time to hearing him, the small but somehow bold joke went over big.

The timing did it—the little pause before the word "museum," and the very word popped out half with a twinkle, half dead-pan. Stevenson would have made a pretty good comic of the Fred Allen brand, if he had not chosen public service.

Yet there was little enough comedy in the rest of what Stevenson had to say, and every word of it was said effectively. There was no grand oratorical flourish; there were no redemptations. The speaking style, in truth, was extraordinarily unemphatic.

There were stirring passages, to be sure. You could sense the passion when Stevenson solemnly declared that true patriotism is not short, frenzied bursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime; and you could feel the passion also in his brief, almost poetic in-

vention of the beauty of this land of ours. It was not by the devices of the silver-tongue, but by having something quite genuine and important to say, that Stevenson stirred this audience in which so many were fundamentally hostile to him.

The whole thing was of a piece, from the start to the finish, when Stevenson unconventionally played down his preparation, and closed with a couple of rueful sentences of apology and thanks. And when it was all over, and Stevenson left the microphone, the whole hall, including many hundreds of Legionnaires who bitterly disapproved of most of what Stevenson said, joined in the loud and obviously admiring cheers.

This reporter had kept his eye, from the beginning, on a hard-shelled Republican Legion group from the Dakotas. They had heartily joined in the applause which was too continuous surf, on which Stevenson seemed to ride through his speech. At the last, one of this group said, "Well, you can't help liking a fighter, whether you agree with him or not."

It may seem exaggerated to devote a long report to a mere description of Stevenson's speaking style and its effect on the Legion audience. Yet this Legion audience certainly constituted an acid test. If Stevenson was going to prove too high-brow for mass consumption, if his personality was going to be too precious for Mr. and Mrs. Average American, this was the moment for Stevenson to fall. Instead of the failure the Republicans have been hoping for, Stevenson enjoyed something very close to a triumph. It may be curious, but it can no longer be doubted, that in Adlai Stevenson the Democrats have found a candidate with a new special and personal political appeal of the highest power. (Copyright, 1952, New York Herald Tribune, Inc.)

OIL FOR THE SCAMPS OF CHINA



Comes the Dawn

Downtown store salespersons who let a customer stand there stewing before they wait on him (or her) got a rough going over from a lady shopper who had to lay out four-bits for an overtime parking tag. "If that so-and-so clerk would have waited on me right away," she sobbed to the police desk sergeant, "I would not have got this ticket." ... And the Midget Market truck the other day sported a delivery boy who was at least 6 feet tall, heavy and definitely no midget.

Reports from Coos Bay and Westport. Wash., both coast towns, say that huge tidal waves rolled in last Saturday morning, swamping fishing boats at both places. This was at approximately the same time that a big wall of water knocked over the boat in Yaquina Bay at Newport and killed two Salem men. And the experts and semi-experts at Westport are blaming the phenomena on an earthquake far out at sea, which they say, may have kicked up the watery monster.

Salme Chamber of Commerce staffers are up to their "I like Salem," badges taking care of a rash of odd requests. To wit: (a) A long-distance call comes from a man in White Salmon, Wash., asking if the chamber could locate a baby sitter for a five hour sit on a certain day in Fair Week. So he and missus could take in Salem's big show unbothered by their one-year old son. (b) A short note from a gent in Texas, asking in as few words as possible, who in the hills of Oregon could supply him with a genuine, live Oregon jackrabbit. (c) Another letter from another sleepy Texan asking if the chamber could send him a bag of dried hops. Seems his wife had insomnia and he had heard that hops under his wife's pillow would make her sleep. Restraining an almost uncontrollable impulse to send the request to a brewery the chamber passed it along to a dried hop dealer.

A homemade sign over a mean-looking paper cutting machine at Zellerbach Paper Company on Ferry Street — probably put up there by a jaw-weary workman — reads: "Yep! Sure does cut. Nope, never caught my hand in THERE. Nope, don't know how much pressure she's got. Yep, sure is some machine." ... Local wags are saying that if TV gets here by Thanksgiving citizens will have their choice of two kinds of turkey on that day.

Kingwood Heights youngsters, with time and parents hanging heavily over their heads in these restless just-before-school-starts days, took on a benefit circus project. Next they were looking for Jason Lee, polio chairman, to hand him the circus proceeds, all \$5.29 of it, for the polio fund. The circus included skits, sale of candy and popcorn and kept the kids occupied for three whole days. Main characters were Marilyn Carr, Carolyn and Roland Beavers, Billy Greer, Patricia Gainsforth and Sandra Ingleson, all youngsters in the Kingwood-Bonney Way neighborhood.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

by Lichty



"Don't be silly, Mahomet ... flying carpets are just an optical illusion ..."

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page one.)

economic wealth created in those districts even if it lost its contribution to their development.

Water users in the Tualatin are in a tight squeeze because more demand water than the stream flow will supply. Since the area is within the Willamette basin and since the Corps of Engineers is planning a water resources survey, with the Reclamation Bureau at hand to advise on irrigation matters, it would seem better to rely on these federal agencies rather than for the state to jump in and rush through a project even though the urgency is great.

Turning to another section, the McKenzie, the governor's committee on natural resources has appealed to the Eugene Water & Electric Board not to proceed with the diversion of upper McKenzie river waters for hydroelectric generation. The recommendation followed a public meeting in Eugene where the subject was discussed. The Water Board has no definite plans for upstream utilization, but has had engineering surveys made covering the river's generating possibilities. The governor's committee held that the McKenzie "is more valuable to the state of Oregon as a scenic, recreational area than for any other use."

With state authorities blocking the Pelton dam project on the Deschutes to protect a fish run not yet existing, and now with the protest raised against power plants on the upper McKenzie one may wonder where we are to get our electric energy. I am however much more in sympathy with the recommendation as to the McKenzie than with the bar to power development on the Deschutes. And even on the McKenzie it may be possible to drop in some low level diversion dams without doing serious damage to its scenic beauty. The Statesman was one of the first to oppose the Blue River dam on the McKenzie in the original program of the Army Engineers. That was later abandoned in favor of dams on tributaries but none of them has been built. Whatever is done on the McKenzie should be done only after a very careful study of its values.

EMIGRATION SPURTS

ROME (AP)—Italian emigration took a spurt during the first five months of 1952. The Italian Central Statistical Institute reports that 68,372 Italians left Italy as compared with 62,339 during a similar period in 1951.

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Fun With A Camera

By DR. HENRY E. MORRIS

By DR. HENRY MORRIS
There will be fun galore with your camera at the Oregon State Fair, today from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. There will be 4 or 5 models that will be available, dressed in bathing suits, sweaters and other dresses that suit the occasion. The Salem Camera Club is sponsoring worth while prizes for the best pictures taken of the models. It is understood that value of the prizes will range around \$100.

Any camera fan wishing to take advantage of having professional models get information regarding their location at any particular time at the publicity office on the fair grounds, between 1 and 4 p.m., today. Ask for information as to the time the pictures must be turned in for judging. The Salem Camera Club wishes as many fans as possible will take part. You do not have to be a member of any camera club however.

The Salem Camera Club also invites everyone to inspect the Arts Department, where a large number of photos taken by members of the club, as well as others, will be exhibited during the fair.

Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "The top of the tree was up above the house."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "macabre"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Baronnet, barouche, barracuda, barometer
4. What does the word "motive" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with int that means "honesty"?

ANSWERS

1. Omit up. 2. Pronounce mak-a-br, both a's as in ah, accent second syllable. 3. Baronet. 4. To provide with a motive; to impel. "What were the causes which motivated these deeds?" 5. Integrity.

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NEW COLLEGE ANNOUNCED

TAIPEH (AP) — Dr. William Fenn, secretary general of the United Board of Christian Churches in China, has announced that a new Christian college will be established on Formosa this fall.