

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Stays Us No Fear Shall Ave"
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Trucks Confuse the Issue

This state's voters will have a tough time segregating the gobbledygook from the true meaning in several of Oregon's measures Nov. 4 but in no instance will the confusion be greater than in the referendum and the initiative affecting trucks. And few issues are more important to the economic welfare of all of us.

To straighten the record, here's the picture:
(1) The "motor carrier highway transportation tax act" (on the ballot as 318 Yes and 319 No) comprises an enactment of the 1931 legislature increasing the taxes on trucks and buses to a point at which it was believed the highway tax burden would be equitably distributed. It was passed by the House 45 to 13, by the Senate 23 to 5. The bill was based on a 17-year-long study. It would have increased the revenue to the state by \$1,600,000 in 1931. But the Oregon Petroleum Carriers' Conference invoked the referendum on the grounds the increase was too great. Now it is up to the voters to decide whether they should rely on the considered judgment of their legislators and pass the measure. The Statesman believes emphatically that they should, and that a 318 YES vote should carry.
(2) The "constitutional amendment providing equitable taxing method for use of highways" (on the ballot as 330 Yes, 331 No) is misleading from the start. The word "equitable" is the truckers' definition. The word "ruinous" is more apt. The proposed amendment would remove entirely the so-called weight-mile method of taxing trucks and buses, and throw the entire highway burden on registration and fuel tax. It would tie the legislature's hands in effecting any kind of an equitable distribution. A minimum annual loss of revenue of \$7,000,000 would be occasioned by passage of the amendment unless an added load is levied against the users of private cars in regard to registration and fuel tax. Farm trucks also would bear a new burden. The amendment is entirely unreasonable and dangerous and a 331 No vote is vital and completely warranted if the voters of Oregon want trucks to pay a just part of the construction and maintenance of highways.
Vote 318 Yes.
Vote 331 No.

The Youngsters Show Us Up

Teen-agers have been the butt of some adverse comparisons in recent years when balanced against earlier generations. We do not share in such a view. And there's one department, at least, in which Salem-area youth certainly has walked away from its counterpart of yesteryear. That is good conduct on Halloween.
Halloween, a custom that the jovial Irish are credited with popularizing in America, began as a night of fortune-telling games and fun. The "trick or treat" phase that has become so inseparably linked to Halloween in recent years also dates back to ancient Ireland.
The pranks and vandalism appear to have been the contributions of a lusty, new nation, and one need scarcely be an old-timer to recall when it was routine to see many a gate atop a pole on the morning after Oct. 31. Anything not nailed down was considered fair game, and the tipping of certain outhouses was virtually traditional.

"Split" Congress May Face New President, With Opposition Controlling One Chamber

WASHINGTON — The election tradition that control of Congress goes to the party winning the Presidency may be smashed this fall for the first time in 36 years.

A split Congress is most likely to occur, according to a survey by Congressional Quarterly, if the Republicans candidate, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, becomes President by a close margin. If this happens, there is a strong possibility he will have a GOP House, but face a Democratic Senate, the CQ survey of political experts in both parties reported.

Only by racking up a victory of landslide proportions is Eisenhower expected to carry enough of his Congressional colleagues in on his coat-tails to assure Republican control of both House and Senate. On the other hand, if Gov. Stevenson wins the Presidency for the Democrats by any more than a very narrow margin, his party has a strong chance of controlling both chambers in the 83rd Congress.

This situation prevails, CQ's survey indicated, because in order to get Senate control the Republicans must win almost every closely-contested race. There are 35 seats at stake and the GOP must win 23, the Democrats only 14 to have a majority.

The last time that a split Congress was elected in a Presidential year was in 1916, when the House went Republican and the Senate went Democratic with Woodrow Wilson. Grover Cleveland was elected in 1884 with a Republican Senate. The House went Democratic with the Presidency that year. There are no other instances of a split Congress being chosen in recent "residential election years. In 1906, the Republicans gained control of both chambers, but they lost out again when President Truman was re-elected in 1908. In 1930 the Republicans won both the Senate and House control, but several House GOP Members-elect died before start of the term, so the lower chamber was controlled by the Democrats for the last part of the Hoover Administration.

Thirty-five Senate seats in 33 states are on the election block

tional. Many a farmer spent the day after Halloween rounding up buggies and strayed livestock, while householders and merchants were busy cleaning windows.

Destruction of property, however, has been on the wane for years, and reported incidents of silly Halloween vandalism have become increasingly fewer in the Salem area. Like youngsters everywhere, those in the valley have shown a willingness to accept treats in lieu of playing tricks. Parties, designed to keep the small fry out of mischief, also have played a part. And while it's probable that a few things will be uprooted Friday night, it's also probably true that the moppets will be more orderly than either their dads or grandpas were.

'Fool Me Twice, Shame on Me'

Remember the Japanese adage, "Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me"? It looks like Harry Truman is setting the stage to attempt to fool the American public "twice." The situation now, in some respects, compares to that just prior to the 1948 elections. Then the pollsters were predicting a Dewey victory. Near the close of the campaign, Secretary of Agriculture Brannon caused a rush on the nation's grain storage facilities by price juggling, and when the grain storage facilities were unable to handle the temporary rush, Truman falsely blamed the Republican 80th Congress for withholding funds for storage bins.

Using this hoax, Truman convinced many of the Midwest farmers to "talk Republican but vote Democratic" and thereby won the election. Now the pollsters are again predicting a Republican victory, although leaving a way out by talking about the undecided independent vote. And once again we scent the planning of a show by Truman to swing the political pendulum to the Democrats and Adlai Stevenson.

The Wage Stabilization Board's denial of the full demands of John L. Lewis, and the ensuing strike, set the stage beautifully for the intervention of Harry Truman and the blissful reconciliation with Lewis who, incidentally, favors Stevenson. This little "morality play" is supposed to illustrate that the Democratic party can "handle" labor unions, on one hand, and give them what they want, on the other. It is a strategy to collect votes from anyone who takes a superficial look, and it could well swing votes both from unions and from other factions—but not from anyone who takes a second look.

The job of the Republicans is now apparent. They must analyze this Truman hoax and point it out for what it is—another surrender to John L. Lewis on the part of the administration, with a delayed action clause to postpone the full wage increase until after the election. The mine operators have agreed to set aside that portion of the miners' pay not permitted by the WSB ruling until such time as the miners are in a position to collect.

That is no way to fight inflation, and the Republicans should make use of every known device to make everyone aware of the situation. This time the Republicans and voters of independent thought should be wide awake to Harry Truman's schemes to influence votes. If they don't make the most of the opportunity, then truly "shame on them."

Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

MEN AT ARMS, by Evelyn Waugh (Little, Brown; \$3.50) Guy Crouchback, somewhat like Waugh himself, we are told, makes a somewhat stodgy, or at least unheroic, start at a military career in this novel, which is intended to be the first of three.

He has been married to Virginia, and divorced and, as Catholic, may not remarry, and for eight years, until the bugles call him to arms, he has been living in Italy. He behaved himself there, while other English friends of his, his neighbors abroad, did not; yet they were popular among the natives, and middle-aged, proper Guy was not, they found, very sympathetic. He was tolerated, no more.

And it was toleration, or something more than indifference but less than affection, that he encountered back in England where he tried to enlist, and among the soldiers when he finally donned a uniform. The first sign of enthusiasm for war was worn off by the time he reached home. The government was going slow on recruiting, the most coveted posts were filled, and he must start as an officer candidate in the West.

He meets some curious old crocks... crocks to the English, sticks to us. There is insufferable young Trimmer; and Apthorpe who has lived in Africa and speaks more highly than the facts justify about his family connections; and Leonard, with the uppity wife; and the one-eyed, savage Brigadier. And Guy, wearing on a cord the medal of Our Lady of Lourdes which has belonged to an older brother who was killed in World War I, is a Catholic in a Protestant environment.

What Waugh will develop this into it is impossible to say. Yet though it must seem unlikely after the innumerable war novels published in the last decade, this is still a different treatment, a different point of view. Here is no picture of extreme hardship, suffering, danger, victory, defeat, injustice, no raw colors, no ranting. This is indeed almost not a story, but rather a calm chronicle, a bit humdrum. The scenes with relatives, in quarters at mess, at military school, and in the early approaches to actual warfare may not stir you, but they convince you. This is a welcome change for the reader who has found Waugh's recent novels too strained too shrill.



"Won't you ever grow up, Smedley? ... twenty years we've been married and you're still trying to live on our income!"



Statesman office fone rang the other night. Party on the other end of the line deposited 15 cents, cleared his throat and identified himself as Bob Gamble, Jefferson business man. Said he went hunting Sunday afternoon with his dog. Said the dog stepped on a stone and instead of yelling, "Yike, Yike!" cried "Ike, Ike." Gamble said he thought this must be indicative of something, even though he doesn't think the hound is old enough to vote—probably not even registered. End of conversation.

Wot'll be the first thing either Ike or Adlai will do after either he or he is elected? Our guess is it'll be to take a shower and get rid of all that mud... Phil Gilstrap's son, Gary, 6, bawled out by his mom for saying he hated a playmate, thought for a minute. "Guess you're right, Mom," he said, "I even like Ike." ... GOPsters who insist that anyone who doesn't endorse the straight party ticket is traitor, better not let that dangerous philosophy get to Oregon's Democrats—or there'll be some changes made in Oregon politics next week.

TV owners (elder species) are relieving their mad, mad youth daily between the hours of 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. Old-time cowboy stars Ken (Two Gun) Maynard, Tim (Tight Lips) McCoy and Big Boy Williams appear as red meat entertainers in ancient cowboy flickers on KPTV's "Six Gun Theatre" show. One 32-year-old older, with tears in his eyes, said he hopes any day now for the rest of the he-men pack—Tom Mix, Buck Jones, Hoot Gibson, Bob Steele, etc. Anyway, the kids lap it up... Top notch entertainment on Sunday nights' teevee shows, tho.

This happened when state and city cops were called out for the attempted prison break Tuesday aye. A cordon of cops was placed around the pen property limits. Fog was as thick as a politician's honor and visibility was zero-zero. Well as the cop-guards stood around in the thick stuff waiting for anything to happen, they suddenly hear guns go off in the fog not far away. They rush over and find two pheasant hunters hanging away at birds in the mist. Police say it was a tossup as to who were most scared—guards, who that couple armed escapees were out there, or hunters who wondered if they were doing something wrong when the cops rushed them.

Not ALL Demos are mad at ALL Republicans... Writing in her column Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt tells about leaving chilly New York for warm Chile on a State Department mission. Because she is a delegate to the U.N. she said she was a little worried at first about leaving her U.N. post for a week... "But," she adds, "my alternate, Charles Sprague of Oregon, is better fitted than I am to handle some of the items that will come up while I am away..."

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Wants Natural Milk
To the Editor:
During the last few days there has been a lot of campaigning in your paper concerning the milk bill.
I don't know who is right and who is wrong. All I've got to say is this: I like milk with plenty of good rich cream and I never could see why they have to take off any of that cream. Why can't we have whole milk just the way Mother Nature produces it?
All I want is clean whole milk. Nothing added—nothing taken out. We are entitled to the whole product.
Mrs. Clara Jobst
114 Brady St.
Woodburn, Ore.

Better Bill Sought
To the Editor:
When Senator Warren Gill explained the school district reorganization bill to the Lyons Parent-Teacher Club last week, he emphasized that although the measure has many fine provisions, it also has some very bad ones. With the good parts of it in mind, the professional educators and the residents of urban areas are enthusiastically working for the bill. With the bad parts in mind, the rural people (for whom the Grange speaks) are working against it.

The reorganization bill was written primarily to remedy the chaotic conditions in towns and suburbs of overlapping districts and boards. And then, for the sake of uniformity, identical provisions were included for the rural districts. Yet the type of reorganization needed by suburban districts would not meet the needs of rural schools at all! City

schools will not be affected since they are already unified districts. Senator Gill stated that if the voters would reject this particular reorganization measure, the new legislature would undoubtedly go to work on another one which would meet not only the needs of town schools but also those of rural schools.
Since Oregon's rural schools educate more than half of the state's children, it would seem wise to reorganize the districts in a way that would improve both the country and town schools. We rural parents hope the people of Oregon will vote 321 No and give the new legislature a chance to write a better bill than the present School District Reorganization Bill.

Mrs. John Prideaux
Lyons, Ore.

Frances Morse
To the Editor:
Allow me to add my voice to the swelling chorus of those who praise the courageous and wise action of Senator Morse. He speaks for vast numbers of independent voters who in honesty could not condone the statesmanlike action and attitudes of Gen. Dwight Eisenhower. We, many of us, hailed the general's nomination to the highest office in the land with genuine joy, only to be disappointed and disillusioned by his lack of honesty, sincerity and all elements we expect to find in a leader of this great nation. To Senator Morse we owe a debt of gratitude for expressing our beliefs. He has and will continue to give courage to those who are, or have been, confused by the chaptrap of the GOP.

Regina Kelly
Salem, Ore.

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "Immediately the entertainment ended, he stepped outside of the hall."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "proboscis"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Foudoir, boulevard, bouillon, bourgeols.
... What does the word "gargoyles" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with bl that means "fantastic; odd"?
ANSWERS
1. Say, "As soon as the entertainment ended, he stepped outside (omit of) the hall." 2. Pronounce prob-os-is, first o as in nose, second o as in boss (the e is silent), and accent second syllable. 3. Boulevard, 4. A waterspout, often carved grotesquely, projecting at the upper part of a building, usually from the roof gutter. 5. Bizarre.

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