

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us No Fear Shall Awe"  
From First Statesman, March 23, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY  
CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher

Published every morning, Business office 215 S. Commercial St., Salem, Ore., Telephone 3-3641. Entered at the postoffice at Salem, Ore., as second class matter under act of Congress March 3, 1879.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

By carrier in cities: Daily and Sunday \$1.45 per mo. Daily only 1.25 per mo. Sunday only .30 week. By mail, Sunday only (in advance) .30 per mo. Anywhere in U. S. 2.75 six mo. 5.00 year.

By mail, Daily and Sunday (in advance) In six counties (Benton, Clackamas, Linn, Marion, Polk, Yamhill), \$1.90 per mo. 18.00 year. Elsewhere in Oregon 1.30 per mo. In U. S. outside Oregon 1.45 per mo.

Associated Press (The Associated Press is not included exclusively for the use of republication of all local news printed in this newspaper.)

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## 'Korean Tales'

Whatever else may be said about "Korean Tales" by Lt. Col. Melvin B. Voorhies (Simon & Schuster, N.Y., \$3.00) this much is true, the book is well written. It is not a chronological history of the war in Korea where Voorhies served for many months. It is a pot pourri of impressions, of experiences, a combination of reporting and of editorializing on the rough, tough job of waging an unwelcome war in a rugged land. Voorhies himself is under military charges for failing to submit his manuscript to the War department before publishing it; but this news doubtless is good advertising for the book. What the military doesn't want the public to read, that the public will seek out.

The ones most unhappy over Voorhies' comments are the press correspondents who covered the war in Korea. In his official duties the author was thrown in constant touch with them and their grist of news for papers back home. He found many of them lacking in social consciousness and in moral willingness to confess error or untruth. He blames much of their straying from the ethical path to pressure from editors at home for the "fresh lead," the "exclusive," the "big story," the "eye-popper." He accuses them of being inaccurate and "fortunately" he says, usually wrong in their predictions. At that he singles out a goodly number, Homer Bigart of the NY Herald-Tribune at the head of the list, for special commendation.

At least these comments should take a little of the conceit out of the news and radio services even though Voorhies may have indulged in overstatement in venting his gripes.

One of the best chapters in the book is "The Generals." It refers particularly to General Walker who was the field commander until his death in a traffic accident, and his relations with General Almond who had the separate command of X Corps. The lack of close liaison hampered operations after the Inchon landing and may have contributed to the failure to seal up the enemy and wind up the war in the fall of 1950. Walker was preeminently a battlefield commander, with no sense of dramatics or of "public relations." Thus he got a "cold press" whereas McArthur and Ridgway, who succeeded Walker, rated as newsworthy personally. Some time some competent military historian should do a study of the conduct of the Korean war. This Voorhies book offers only a few sidelights, and much of what has been written has been colored by the MacArthur relationship or is not based on thorough scholarship. That will await the opening of the documents.

Voorhies indulges himself in a varied style of writing. Some of his chapters are narratives. Others are letters or character sketches. One is a cameo of a Korean grandmother who walks out of the poor home and on toward the river, —jo leave more food for the younger ones; another is the confessional of the sergeant who machine-gunned a group of captives: "It was

they or we." War brings its tragedies and its pathos, and Voorhies has caught both—but very little of comedy in this most humorless war.

## Thomas Mann and the West

The foremost German writer of the mid-century is Thomas Mann. He left his native country out of abhorrence of Nazi rule and became a naturalized American citizen. He is living again in Germany, but retains his new citizenship. Often identified with left-wing causes as have been many of the intelligentsia, he recently renewed his expression of loyalty to the democracy of the West.

Interviewed by the Neue Zeitung, the U. S. sponsored paper at Frankfurt, this author of some of the great novels of our time—"The Magic Mountain," "Joseph,"—summed up his philosophy thus:

"All my doing and my striving, all my books and writings, and all my being show that I am relentlessly endeavoring to contribute, in accordance with my abilities, to the great cultural heritage of the West; to spread among the people a little more joy, knowledge, and wisdom, and greater cheerfulness; to serve them thus and to justify my existence by my work."

This is a wholesome pattern for living and for work. That this great intellectual identifies himself fully with the West gives heart to those who seek to preserve the climate of intellectual liberty in which great minds may flourish and bear fruit for human good.

## Weekly Progress

The Dayton Tribune appeared in a new, tabloid form in its recent issue. The publisher, R. R. Allison, explains that when the wholesale house discontinued supply of "canned features" (boiler plate to the trade) it was necessary to go all-home-print; and this made the smaller size more practicable. We believe the readers will welcome the change, for it is the home news they really want in the home paper. The content of the Tribune appears improved by the forced change.

Another weekly, the Stayton Mail, went to seven-column size in its last issue, adding a column to provide more space. Thus do home town newspapers seek to serve their readers better.

Early detection of a blaze in the metal remelt room at The Statesman and prompt action with fire extinguishers and the swift arrival of the fire department confined the damage to some charred walls and burned electric circuits. Thanks to the precautions of the fire department water damage was nil. The Statesman is most grateful to the firemen for their good work, and appreciates the offer of facilities by the Capital Journal which, however, were not needed. We have been racing against time and fire hazard to get into a new, fire-safe building; and hope to have no fresh outbreak of fire before we can move, several weeks hence.

## Eisenhower Facing Greater Problems Than Those of Any Incoming American President

By JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON—This is the official turning of the year. In practice, however, the new year will really begin, for America and for the Western World, when Dwight D. Eisenhower takes his Presidential oath.

That day, in his inaugural address, Eisenhower will summon Americans to a new unity and a new sense of purpose. Soon thereafter, he will reveal the broad outline of his practical program in his message to the State of the Union, which will be his first down-to-earth statement of policy.

The two speeches, which Eisenhower has already decided to differentiate in this manner, will symbolize together the two great goals he has set for himself. In an atmosphere grown fetid with political squallor and political ugliness, he hopes to bring about a renewal of faith. And in a time when American policy sometimes seems to swing aimlessly, like a broken shutter in the wind, he hopes to achieve reinvigoration by works.

One thing is clear, even now, about this great enterprise that Eisenhower is embarking on. It is to make 1953 a wonderfully busy and probably agonizingly busy and probably agonizingly busy and probably agonizingly busy year. The range of activity, the variety of the already foreseeable causes of debate, are little short of stupendous.

The State Department is to be reorganized again—John Foster Dulles has asked Donald B. Lourie, President of the Quaker Oats Company, to undertake this grisly job as a Second Under Secretary of State. While the policy-making machinery is in mid-upheaval, the Korean problem is to be boldly tackled—certain of Eisenhower's advisors are now discussing the use of atomic weapons against the enemy ground forces there, which should provoke a major inter-Allied turmoil. Other great problems, like Indo-China, are also to be firmly attacked—and this can make trouble with the Congress.

The defense budget is to be recast—among the Eisenhower men there is much talk of cancelling the bulk of the giant carrier program and otherwise "streamlining" the Navy fleet into line with national strategy, which should touch off still a third resounding controversy. While the existing defense program is being turned upside down, it is also planned to grasp such huge entities as the great atomic program and the hydrogen bomb and the vast and urgent problem of American air defense.

A new relation between Congress and the White House must be hammered out—and it may be said on good authority that few Eisenhower men count on basing this relation on continued peaceful cooperation between Dwight D. Eisenhower and Robert A. Taft. Taxes, inflation, wage and price controls, farm policy, internal security policy—all these must be revised or redefined. And while all this is going on, the outside world will still be pressing ever new proposals and demands upon Eisenhower. Even before his inauguration, for instance, Winston Churchill will almost surely lay before him a new British plan for currency stabilization, which may involve drastic American tariff reductions, and certainly call for a massive American contribution to a broader monetary

stabilization fund for the Western World.

It is only necessary to go down this extremely incomplete list to see two things. First of all, the great numbers of people who hope the Eisenhower Administration will prove a sort of political golden age, are due for a great disappointment. So many complex questions cannot be ventilated, so many vital decisions cannot be reached, without a good deal of friction. The concord that prevails today cannot prevail much longer, for very obvious practical reasons.

Second, however, the very fact Eisenhower and his co-workers plan such an aggressive attack on so many fronts at once is in itself vastly encouraging. American government has too long been languid and palsied. The biggest trouble, at home and abroad, has been the loss of vigor and self-confidence.

Yet with all their vigor, all their self-confidence, all their freshness of outlook, Eisenhower and his new men will also need to be wise in themselves and strengthened by the support of a united nation. This time that is beginning now is the time that must shape the future of America and of the world.

It is the time that all the Chiefs of Staff in all the Western nations have chosen as the moment of greatest danger, by reason of the completion of the Soviet rearmament program. It is the time that will test whether the Western alliance can hold together. It is the time that will tell whether this nation can do its job as the leader of the free world. No President, not even Abraham Lincoln, has taken office with such a heavy burden of immediate responsibility, amid such dangers, or surrounded by such difficulties. If Eisenhower fails, the last best hope will fall with him. But as the year 1953 opens, the signs are that Eisenhower will succeed.

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## THE CUSTOMER IS ALWAYS WRONG



## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page one)

amendment requires petitions signed by 15 per cent of the registered voters although the general local option law sets the requirement at only ten per cent. The duty of the Legislature is set forth in the amendment as follows:

"The Legislative Assembly shall provide in such details as it shall deem advisable for carrying out and admitting the provisions of this amendment and shall provide adequate safeguards to carry out the original intent and purpose of the Oregon Liquor Control Act, including the promotion of temperance in the use and consumption of alcoholic beverages, encourage the use and

consumption of lighter beverages, and aid in the establishment of Oregon industry."

Under these terms the Legislature is due to ride off in all directions at the same time!

Presumably the Legislature will lay down the conditions for licensing of liquor-by-the-glass dispensaries, and give to the Liquor Control Commission responsibility for licensing and policing such places. This prompts the query if the added burden may not justify making the Commission a salaried, full-time body.

The last paragraph of the amendment says that all individuals shall be treated equally;

and that all provisions shall be liberally construed. This gives quite a leverage against limiting licenses to a few upper crust clubs and restaurants. The final effect of the amendment probably will be the return of the open saloon with soup and pot roast added.

The legislature can draw from the experience of Washington which let liquor (opened) the bars to hard liquor a few years ago. There is no doubt though that adoption of the amendment will open a new chapter in Oregon history of dealing with the liquor traffic; and if conditions grow worse we may expect a revival of attempts to dry up localities or even the state. The problem of control of traffic in alcoholic beverages is one that refuses to stay solved.

## VETS GET BENEFITS

MANILA (AP)—The U.S. Veterans Administration office in the Philippines has disbursed more than 300 million dollars since July, 1946, to American and Filipino veterans of the U.S. armed forces.



One man's fearless prediction of things to come in 1953: INTERNATIONAL—The world should be at peace in 1953—provided no police actions occur anywhere... The possibility remains good that the Korean difficulty will be resolved in 1953—this is the same possibility which looked good in 1952 and will probably look good in 1954... If the Korean truce talks run out of words we predict they will resort to sign language... INTER-PLANETARY—We predict that flying saucers in 1953 will be accompanied by cups and silverware... Look for Sen. McCarthy to launch a movement to ferret out Reds on Mars... Venus will come in contact with Taurus the Bull early this year, but nobody will notice it.



POLITICS—It can be safely said that Sen. Morse will, in the years ahead, spend some of his time voting with the Republicans, some of his time voting with the Democrats and the rest of his time explaining his vote... We predict that the 1953 legislature will again unsuccessfully predict the end of its session... SPORTS—Look for several bouts between Rita and Aly... Joe Louis will not be a threat this year in the heavyweight boxing division... All the people who bet and lost on the 1952 World Series will bet and probably lose on the 1953 series... Don Harger will get a call every Friday night from you-know-who asking him where to go fishing—and one day in 1953 Harger will tell him where to go... DRAMA—TV wrestlers will be awarded Pulitzer prizes for being the best actors in 1953... Hollywood will do a movie on the life and times of Harry Truman... LABOR-MANAGEMENT—We can look for a heavy job turnover in 1953—especially in Washington... Experts say if more people seek less jobs in 1953 it will mean something is wrong somewhere... BUSINESS—Business men who have a bad year in '53 will have to find something else to blame it on besides those dang Democrats... Two or three times during the coming year an important person will remark that a general business recession is or is not just around the corner... Washington, D. C., furriers will have a rough time of it this year... HUMAN AFFAIRS—It is safe to say that in 1953 half the married persons will be women and half men—except maybe in Denmark... During the year at least 12 prominent Hollywood movie couples will get divorces, 12 more will deny they are going to get divorces and 12 more will get divorces so they can remarry and 12 more will remark publicly that somebody is trying to give Hollywood a bad name... Around about July, say, a youth in Colorado will get trapped in an abandoned well... And in August 472 residents of a small mountain town in Arkansas will elect a flying saucer... and the Air Force will blame it on mass hypnotism... WEATHER—During 1953 a certain number of days will be cloudy, others will be partly cloudy and others clear—and the rest can be blamed on atomic experiments... During August in Salem a total of 725 persons will remark that Oregon summers are getting hotter... The weatherman this year will continue to have his fun with weather predictions... SCIENCE—About mid-year look for a scientist to announce that experiments have been started on a new bomb called the Z-bomb—reputed to be 100 times more powerful than the H-bomb... A young research worker in California will reveal plans for an interplanetary motorcycle... A real estate dealer in Chicago will start selling lots on the moon... GENERAL—In general in 1953 we predict that one day will follow another despite rumors to the contrary...

## Washington Mirror

By A. ROBERT SMITH  
Statesman Correspondent

WASHINGTON—The Nation's Capital can toss its head in happy pride on Jan. 20—for it will be able to lead the inauguration parade down Pennsylvania avenue with a decorative float more in keeping with its importance as a city than had been anticipated.

Washington's city fathers are three commissioners, who are at the mercy of Congress on the matter of funds. They have all been agonizing lately in print, on the radio and television over the fact that Congress last June had slashed the "ceremonial fund," used for welcoming dignitaries to Washington. The commissioners wailed that what with welcoming General Eisenhower in November, and allocating for parade route bunting, etc., they didn't have enough money for construction of a float for inauguration day. As a matter of cold fact, they had \$683 left and it was estimated that suitable inaugural parade float will cost around \$2500.

The sanitation department offered to construct a float, using street cleaning equipment, but the commissioners turned them down. The District float will lead the parade and it just wouldn't be seemly to have a tacky float represent the Nation's Capital—when streaming along behind the home-made float would be fancy numbers from the rest of the United States.

The dilemma which faced the commissioners was solved the week because of a benign and generous gesture by the chairman of the Republican Inaugural Committee. He announced that his committee is giving the commissioners \$2500 for a float—so now everybody's happy.

On the matter of budget cutting for the District of Columbia, a good many people are worried that because of the slash of funds by Congress for the Washington police force, there will be a worsening of the increase in crime when the anticipated 180,000 visitors flood the city for the inauguration festivities.

Washington, unfortunately, has a higher rate of crime than has any other city in the United States. The city's police force, already dangerously low in manpower because of the low pay scale, was refused its request to increase the number of men needed to cope with the rising tide of crime. This was before Congress adjourned in July.

An emergency situation exists now, for the criminal element (already flocking to Washington in anticipation of easy pickings when the inaugural celebrants crowd the city) knows that the police force is pitifully low and,

consequently there has been an upsurge of hold-ups, breaking and pocket-picking during the holidays. As a result, the metropolitan police force is now requiring its men to work overtime without pay until the situation clears. In an emergency situation such as this, the governing body of most towns would meet hurriedly to take action to curb the menace to its citizens. However, in Washington such action must await the pleasure of Congress.

A much happier development in the Capital has been the recent approval by leading civic groups of a plan whereby the city will begin eliminating some of its worst slums. These blighted areas exist in every corner of the town—and some are clustered within two blocks of the Capitol Building. They have provided a nagging contrast to the magnificent structures that have been erected to house the country's lawmakers and other public buildings and monuments which are a source of pleasure to the visitors to Washington.

Civic groups have tangled over the problem for years, but most have now agreed that it's high time to forget differences and get at the job. Billed down, the plan will work something like this: The Federal government buys the land in the clearance area and tries to find homes for the slum dwellers, then tear down the structures. The razed land is sold to private builders through competitive bidding and they will construct new housing according to their plans.

This is a big order and the process will be a slow one; however, the plan's approval is a tribute to numerous conflicting interests in Washington who have been willing to compromise in order that the blight might be removed.

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