

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

In contrast with the continuing tensions over Israel and over Iran the reported settlement of the dispute between Egypt and Britain concerning Sudan serves to shoot a ray of hope in the strategic area of the Middle East. An agreement on the Sudan question may open the way for a settlement of the dispute over presence of British troops in the Suez canal zone, and ease greatly the situation in that critical part of the world.

The Sudan agreement gives the people of that region the final say as to their future. Egypt had claimed the Sudan for its own territory. Britain refused to end the "condominium" and turn the country over to Egypt, taking final refuge in self-determination by the Sudanese.

Anglo-Egyptian Sudan covers over a million square miles of desert and valleys and highlands to the south of Egypt. Its history has been checked. Conquered by Egypt in 1820, the British were called in, or went in, to retrieve the situation after the Mahdist uprisings of the early 1880s. Great names cluster around Sudan. In the fighting General G. G. Gordon was killed at Khartoum in 1885. It was General Kitchener who really established British rule after defeating the native forces at Omdurman in 1898. The condominium with Egypt was signed in 1899 but Britain has been the real ruler of the country.

Egypt has a natural course because the Nile River, Egypt's life artery, flows down from the Sudan. Some of the irrigation dams are located in the Sudan and Egypt wants direct control over them. The Sudan itself is a great cotton-producing area. The far sources of the Nile are even above the Sudan, in Ethiopia and Uganda, but possession of the Sudan would give Egypt far more complete authority over its precious waters.

One can well understand the reluctance of the British in making this concession to Egypt whose capacity for wise self-government surely has not been proved. They recall the stirring Victorian days when the British empire was expanding, and reflect sadly on the shrinking of that empire in this mid-century. Times have changed however, and Britain is making concessions to the current of history. It may well be that Britain may retain its world position by its influence even though it pulls down the Union Jack of imperialism.

Pope Sought Mercy for Rosenbergs
VATICAN CITY (U) — Pope Pius XII intervened in Washington last December in behalf of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, the convicted atomic spies whom President Eisenhower has since refused to save from the electric chair, Roman Catholic Church sources said.

The Vatican newspaper L'Osservatore Romano announced the pontiff stepped in as an act of mercy "insofar as it was permitted him by the lack of every official relation with the competent (American) government authorities."

The newspaper made it plain that the pope's action was being revealed because of insinuations in the Communist press — which is loud in denunciation of the death sentences — that he was not interested in the Rosenbergs' fate. Msgr. Giovanni Cicognani's apostolic delegation in Washington cleared that up a few hours later with this statement:

"At the request of the holy see, the apostolic delegation last December communicated to the Department of Justice the fact that the holy father had received numerous and urgent appeals for intervention with intercession in behalf of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg which, out of motives of charity proper to his apostolic office, without being able to enter into the merits of the case, his holiness felt appropriate to bring to the attention of U. S. civil authorities."

PLANS KOREA VISIT
NEW YORK (U) — Adlai E. Stevenson, the defeated Democratic candidate for president, announced Friday night he hopes to visit Korea in March.

Animal Crackers
By WARREN GOODRICH



ON YOU, DARLING! FOR ME?

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Ready to Boost Marriage Business



This emulation of Dan Cupid by Marion County Clerk Henry C. Mattson may be because the county last year issued the fewest marriage licenses in seven years. But it also may be in recognition of the fact the county's first recorded marriage was performed on Feb. 13, just 104 years ago as shown by the certificate held by Mrs. Rhea Stanton, deputy clerk.

Cupid Dart Caught 1st Duo in 1849

Back 104 Valentine's Days, and some 30,000 weddings ago, a young Marion County man and a maid chose the eve of this romantic day for their wedding, the first officially recorded in the county's annals.

Because the new family's name was Smith, no definite trace of its descendants has been made. But the marriage of Feb. 13, 1849, first in this county after Oregon became a U. S. territory, was the forerunner of an ever-increasing number of marriages now totaling some 1,000 per year.

The bride and groom were Barbara Presley and Sidney Smith, both immigrants of 1848. They were married by William Simpson, minister and patriarch of a clan still prominent in the Willamette Valley.

Miss Presley was the daughter of David Presley. They came from Missouri and settled either in the Waldo Hills or near the State Fairgrounds (versions differ). Smith was a farmer in the Waldo Hills.

Simpson led a wagon train to the state in 1846. Many of his 10 children took claims in the Waldo Hills. His most famous son was Sam L., a well-known Oregon poet of the 19th century.

A Baptist minister, he married at least seven of the eight couples whose weddings are recorded in the county for 1849. They were scattered throughout the year, but none in June. The eighth wedding does not have a certificate, but only a license issued by County Clerk I. N. Gilbert, which is the only license on file for that year.

No. 1 certificate, on paper now ragged and brittle, reads "Champoeg County, Oregon Territory. This is to certify that I, William Simpson, minister of the gospel, did solemnize the rites of matrimony between Sidney Smith of the one part and Barbara Presley of the other part, both of the county and territory aforesaid, by the consent of the parties on the 13th day of February, 1849."

The term "by the consent of the parties" is used on the first six certificates, implying that licenses were not issued by a governmental unit.

Not First Marriage
The first six also are placed in Champoeg County and the last two of the year in Marion County. That change was made by the Territorial Legislature on Sept. 3, 1849, but doesn't show up on the marriage certificates for six weeks afterward.

Historians stress that this was not the county's first marriage. Salem Founder, Isaac Lee himself was wed in the 1830s. But no records have been found of Champoeg County government during the period of provisional government, 1843-49.

Jewelry Salesman Held in Lieu of Bail
Two men were arrested by the Marion County sheriff's office Friday on a charge of selling jewelry without a license and held in lieu of \$1,000 bail each.

Arrested were Troy E. Burk of Vancouver, Wash., and Lee Roodman, New York City. The sheriff's office reported the men were picked up at Glen Hall's auction barn about one mile south of Woodburn at 10:30 p.m. They are expected to be arraigned in Salem District Court today.

Weather to Swing Away From Spring

Salem can kiss the last six days of fair weather goodbye today, according to the weatherman.

Showers over the weekend, beginning about 8 a.m. today when a coastal storm is expected to hit the area, are predicted to end the good weather stretch.

Reds Bombard Front With Propaganda

SEOUL (U) — Chinese Reds ushered in the Year of the Snake Saturday with brief probing assaults on the Korean battle front and Christmas carols played over front-line loudspeakers.

Communist units marked the advent of the Oriental New Year with propaganda broadcasts at the front appealing for a cease-fire. They suggested that American troops go home.

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Freak Woods Mishap Kills Man at Lyons

LYONS—A Salem man was killed in a fluke logging accident near Lyons Friday.

Edwin R. Wilson, 64, of 1840 Tigra Dr., Salem was the victim. Wilson was watching his brother, George, fell a snag on the latter's property, five miles south of Lyons. The falling snag struck another snag and broke in two, sending the butt crashing back onto the victim who was killed instantly.

The deceased had lived at Salem for three years and was employed at the Roy Clatz sawmill near Fox Valley.

Survivors include the widow, Esther Wilson, Salem; and a daughter, Margaret Lewis, on the coast. Services are pending at the Weddie Funeral Home, Stayton.

Convalescing Hoover Leaves for Fishing

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (U) — Herbert Hoover sailed aboard the yacht Sunset Friday for a delayed fishing trip in the Florida Keys.

He spent a week in St. Francis Hospital with influenza. He said he felt a lot better Friday and appeared spry as he walked and talked at the Flamingo Hotel Yacht Basin.

ESCAPES HOSPITAL
A one-legged State Hospital inmate on crutches was reported missing from the institution Friday night. He was identified as Harold Wilson, about 40, and is not dangerous.

Iran Temblor Toll Feared Topping 900

TEHRAN, Iran (U) — The earthquake which wiped out the village of Toroud, a mountain town 200 miles east of Tehran, was reported Friday night to have killed at least 900 persons.

An earlier estimate by the provincial governor had placed the dead at 1,500, with only about 50 survivors in the entire village.

The quake struck about noon Thursday.

Premier Mohammed Mossadegh ordered national mourning for the village and dispatched troops to the earthquake-stricken area.

Fifteen trucks and 15 jeeps, loaded with soldiers, blankets, medicines and food were the first to leave from Tehran. Other convoys converged on the scene from Tehran and coastal towns along the Caspian.

Fireworks Factory Explosion Kills 23

TOKYO (U) — Japanese police said a fireworks factory exploded Saturday in a Tokyo suburb, killing at least 23 persons and seriously injuring 45.

The death toll was expected to rise, police said. Several persons were missing.

The blast flattened 150 homes. Spectacular explosions rocked the area, only a few miles from a U. S. air base, for a half hour. Sheets of white flame burst skywards.

Tree Planting at Depot Marks Arbor Day



Salem had her first Arbor Day tree planting ceremony in several years Friday, as a merchant-sponsored beautification of Southern Pacific Depot grounds got underway with the planting of seven trees.

Sponsored at a newly planted 14-foot Douglas fir are Vernon Gilmore of the Salem parks advisory board, Mrs. Eunice C. Brandt, landscape architect, Mayor Alfred W. Loucks and Terry Randall, representing University District merchants. Three oaks and three sweet gums also were planted. One hundred fifth graders from Bush School took on.

Infiltration of Formosa Tried By Reds, Chiang's Son Claims

Constitution Bill Divides Legislature

By HECTOR L. FOX
Associated Press Writer

Redrafting of Oregon's constitution appeared to have produced a sharp division in the Legislature Friday as the lawmakers ended their fifth week of the session.

The House State and Federal Affairs Committee started working on the proposal, recommended by Gov. Paul L. Patterson.

A constitutional convention would be held in the summer of 1956 to rewrite the entire constitution, which hasn't had a rewriting job since Oregon became a state in 1859.

Debate Over Method

The committee, at its first meeting on the subject, appeared divided over how to choose delegates to the convention, and on what authority the convention should have.

The bill to prevent Sen. Wayne L. Morse from running for reelection as an independent was introduced in the Senate Friday.

Senate President Eugene E. Marsh said he would refer the bill to the Senate Elections Committee, headed by Sen. Richard L. Neuberger, Portland Democrat who is a friend of Morse.

Opposition Firm

Morse bolted the Republican Party to become an independent. There appeared to be considerable doubt whether the Senate would pass it. Some of the state's top members, who are anti-Morse men, said they would oppose the bill.

Sen. Paul Geddes, Roseburg, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said the bill is a "subterfuge" that makes a martyr out of Morse.

He said he and U. S. Sen. Guy Cordon emphatically oppose the bill, Geddes said that he should be beaten on his own terms.

The bill would force Morse to run in the Republican primary, where GOP leaders think they would have a better chance of beating Morse.

The Senate passed and sent to the House a memorial asking Congress to widen and deepen the Columbia River channel from Portland to the mouth. Sen. John C. F. Merrifield, Portland, said many ship owners won't send their ships into the river any more because it is too dangerous.

The Senate Agriculture Committee introduced a bill to require cooking of garbage fed to swine. The bill is designed to check the spread of the fatal hog disease, vesicular exanthema, that is prevalent in many parts of the nation.

Sen. Eugene Allen, Portland, introduced a bill to pay liquor commissioners \$25 a day expenses. Now they get \$10 a day. (Additional Legislative News on page 4.)

Logging Companies Charged in Suit for Sardine Creek Fire

Blame for the 16,000-acre Sardine Creek fire of 1951 was laid on three logging firms Friday in a suit by the state seeking to recover \$282,562 allegedly spent in bringing the blaze under control.

Named as defendants are the Vancouver Plywood Co., the Lee Heacock Logging Co.

It was on land being logged by these companies that the disastrous North Santiam fire occurred, said the complaint. The state alleges that the companies were negligent in preventing and in combating the fire.

The fire, one of the worst in this area, burned more than 16,000 acres of timberlands in Marion and Linn Counties during August and September of 1951.

Halted Dam Work

It came during a tinder-dry, prolonged fire-hazard season. At its height the raging flames sent a smoke pall over the entire area, closed the Santiam highway, caused frantic evacuation of Detroit and other communities, called out more than 1,000 fighters and halted work on the Detroit Dam.

The state is seeking reimbursement for funds it claims the Clackamas-Marion County Fire Patrol Association spent in fighting the fire.

In the court action the state contends that the defendants failed to take adequate protection against the start and spread of fire during the closed fire season, that the defendants did little to halt the blaze and that they permitted unauthorized personnel into their logging operation.

Blame Lack of Tools
Specifically, the complaint alleges the companies failed to fell snags and permitted slashing to accumulate, did not have sufficient fire-fighting tools on hand and did not have an adequate fire watchman service.

Persons named in the defendant list include Jess Lee of the Lee Logging Co., Ford and Edith Converse and Russel L. Heacock.

The complaint was signed by State Forester George Spaur and brought by Marion County District Attorney Kenneth Brown, Assistant Attorney General Tom Stacer and M. B. Strayer, Portland attorney.

'Explosions' Scare Westside Residents

Several "explosions" in the Cascade Drive area startled West Salem residents about midnight Friday, but police investigation showed someone had been firing a shotgun.

Within a few minutes, 24 calls by anxious residents poured into the police station.

SALEM PRECIPITATION
Since Start of Weather Year Sept. 1
This Year Last Year Normal
28.72 33.24 25.48

Weather

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	55	36	.00
Portland	51	34	.00
San Francisco	61	44	.00
Chicago	38	29	trace
New York	44	23	trace
Willamette River 7 1/2 hrs.			

FORECAST (from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Mostly cloudy with occasional showers today, tonight and Sunday. High today near 52; low near 34. Temperature at 12:00 a.m. was 46 degrees.

Nationalists Control Plan Follows Reds

By FRED HAMPSON

TAIPEH (U) — Lt. Gen. Chiang Ching-Kuo, Chiang Kai-Shek's elder son, said Friday that Chinese Communists are trying constantly to infiltrate and bring about the disintegration of the nationalists on Formosa.

"A security system modeled in part on the Communist plan is blocking them, he said.

At least, added the quick smiling young Chiang in an interview, "we are preventing them from undermining the Army."

He heads the political department of the Ministry of Defense. As such, he is No. 1 in the so-called Commissar system and in the Army's secret police.

There have been a hundred executions in the past two months here and some people look upon young Chiang as something secret and sinister.

He doesn't look it. He has an open face, a roly-poly, jolly sort of presence.

Relates Differences
At the school where he trains his political officers, I put the question to him without any frills — "Some say that you are instituting the commissar system and a Red style secret police. What about it?"

Chiang laughed easily and replied, "There are three big differences between my system and the Communist system. One, the red political officers or commissars represent the party. Our men are trained in health, inspection, counter-espionage, security, entertainment and morale. They don't represent any party or faction.

Work is Not Secret
"Two, they do not have the power to countermand an order as do the Red commissars. Three, their work is not secret. From the time they start training to the time they go afield they are an open book."

Young Chiang studied in Russia and has a Russian wife. He says he learned to hate Communism, but thinks the Reds have some things worth borrowing. He is confident the Chinese Nationalists will one day reconquer China.

Controls Cut For Metals

WASHINGTON (U) — The government relaxed controls substantially Friday on steel, copper and aluminum in another step toward a free economy.

An order by the Office of Defense Mobilization (ODM) did not abandon the system of allocating these scarce metals to industry, nor did it scrap price controls on them.

What it did do, though, is make all steel, copper and aluminum not claimed by priority users available to manufacturers on a free market basis.

Government spokesmen said this means that such production ceilings as the 1 1/2 million limit on passenger cars each quarter are ended as of Friday. Automobile makers will be able to turn out as many extra cars as they can produce with unallocated metal.

Similar restrictions will be removed from the construction industry, it was said.

PLAYERS FINED
VANCOUVER, B. C. (U) — Six members of the Everyman Repertory Theater Company were convicted in police court here Friday of staging an indecent play in connection with a production of Erskine Caldwell's "Tobacco Road."

COMMUNISTS KILLED
HANOI, Indochina (U) — French-Vietnamese infantrymen cleaning up an area 100 miles east and south of this Tonkin capital Friday killed 95 Communist-led Vietminh soldiers and captured another 37.

3 More Girls Certified for Spelling Bees

Mt. Angel—Ruth Wilde, 13, second-place winner in spelling at St. Mary's School last year, won top honors for 1953 and will represent her school in the Oregon Statesman-KS-LM Spelling Contest, Principal Francis Fineran announced.



Ruth Wilde, editor of "St. Mary's Chimes" and a talented musician—piano, accordion, cello. She will compete in a spelling contest semi-finals at Silverton, Wednesday night, March 11.

Second place at St. Mary's was won by Donna Volz, 13, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Volz, Route 2, Silverton. Two students were tied for third and both will receive certificates of merit—Mrs. Matilda Simon, 14, daughter of Mrs. Arlene Ebner, and Arlene Ebner, 12, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Ebner, all of Mt. Angel. Donna and Karen are in the 8th grade, Arlene the 7th.

Hubbard—Thirteen-year-old Eileene Cousatte, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Cousatte, will represent Hubbard's 7th and 8th grades in a semi-finals of The Oregon Statesman-KS-LM Spelling Contest at Woodburn (Washington), Thursday night, March 12.

Eileene, now an 8th-grader, was a third in Eileene Cousatte spelling here last year. She was certified as the winner for 1953 by Principal Charles Byers. Her hobby is swimming.

Shella Cannell and Sharon Cannell, both 12 and daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cannell, were second and third, respectively.

Monitor—Carole Homann, 12-year-old 7th-grader who likes music, reading and stamp collecting, is champion speller of Monitor School and will compete in a semi-finals of The Oregon Statesman-KS-LM Spelling Contest at Silverton, Wednesday night, March 11.

Carole, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Homann, Route 1, Mt. Angel, was certified for the contest by her teacher and principal, Ethel Campbell.

Second place at Monitor went to Janet Larsen, 13, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Perry Larsen, Route 2, Woodburn, and third place to Dick Palmquist, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Palmquist, Both Janet and Dick are in the 7th grade.

Blood Donors Give 94 Pints At Woodburn



WOODBURN — Residents here donated 94 pints of blood Friday at the regular Marion County Red Cross blood drawing held from 2 to 6 p.m. in the Legion Hall. A total of 113 persons volunteered.

Two Auroras women joined the "galloner's club" at the drawing: Mrs. Emilie Wilmes and Mrs. F. Green.

The Woodburn Junior Chamber of Commerce recruited donors for the drawing and the American Legion Auxiliary served food supplied by the Woodburn Rotary Club. Women of Woodburn volunteered as nurses and aids.

Daily Speller!

(The following words are among those from which will be chosen the words for the 1953 Oregon Statesman-KS-LM Spelling Contest for 7th and 8th graders of Marion, Polk and part of Yamhill County.)

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|------------|------------|
| occupant | technical |
| hopeful | fashion |
| bamboo | telegram |
| familiar | daughter |
| virtue | absolutely |
| upholstery | foreign |
| wreckage | decision |
| moist | voluntary |
| calendar | delivery |
| muzzle | sentiment |