

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us No Fear Shall Awe"
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Keep It Clean—and Open!

In a rare front-page editorial Friday the Eugene Register-Guard called for open meetings of the state board of higher education.

The state board has tended more and more to act as a semi-private "club" rather than as a responsible public body, the Eugene editor charges. Many important decisions of the board's "club within a club... have actually been made behind the closed doors of the Arlington Club in Portland in advance of the scheduled public hearings—which have been little more than the re-enactment of a set show."

This week a special sub-committee of the board met in Eugene to consider the highly controversial question of costly expansion of the state teachers' colleges. Reporters were not allowed to cover the hearing. Not even the professional witnesses were allowed to hear each other testify, or given an opportunity to meet each other's arguments directly.

But, argues the R-G, this is public business that ought to have been heard in public. Board members, though unpaid, are still public officers, "responsible to the public for everything they do—not only the results, but the reasoning behind the results. It is time for the press and public to demand that 'club' procedures be broken up!"

The position of the Register-Guard is not unique. The press in general has been pressing against "barriers to news" which often are raised by those in public office. Our state press association has a committee working to keep the channels of information open. The demand on the Legislature for a public hearing on the electric surcharge is echoed in the press: the Oregonian says, "Let's get it all on the table." In a majority of cases where official boards exclude reporters and the public the reason is not to commit any secret skulduggery, but the danger is there. To the utmost extent possible we should have public business conducted in public.

That goes for all the state's business. If it is impractical to have every meeting on a come-one-come-all basis, at least representatives of the press ought to be present. There's always going to be a certain amount of "pre-arranging" via telephone or secret caucus; there will always be some cut-and-dried sessions, but we can try to cut down on star-chamber government.

Oregon's state government may be pretty clean compared to some other states (such as California, Texas, Illinois and so on, where governors and legislators sometimes act as errand boys for the powerful-lobbyists) but Oregon won't stay clean for long if too much business is conducted behind closed doors and under the table and in fancy Portland clubs or Salem hotel rooms.

Veteran Legislative Aide Passes

Blaine McCord was an institution at the Legislature. For 34 years as chief clerk of the

Rules committee of the House he had handled procedures in the introduction of bills. It will indeed seem strange not to find him in his customary office or about the corridors, but Friday proved his last work day. Death came to him in his sleep the following night.

His profession was that of a lawyer and he maintained his office at Woodburn since late in 1909. But starting with 1931 he served the Legislature in a very responsible capacity, whipping into shape for introduction texts of bills submitted by members, bringing language and style into conformity with State usage and often making suggestions to clarify meaning.

At Woodburn he filled many positions of responsibility, with the city and schoolboard and on the district draft board. He was clear in his statements and positive in his convictions; but his affable, cordial manner won and held many friends who join in extending sympathies to members of the family.

Saving Roadside Beauty

The state is pouring in tens of millions of dollars into modernizing its highway system. It ought to have some say in prevention of abuse of the highways by signs—"abuse," we said, not "use."

A bill has been offered, SB 188, which seeks to make a fair division between use and abuse. Use is permitted for official signs and for signs for roadside business or for landowners for their private requirements. But the roadside boards would be confined to municipalities and a half-mile range from city limits. The bill applies only to primary state highways.

The measure is needed to preserve roadside beauty. It is supported by persons and organizations who want to protect the countryside and who believe that glaring billboards are a discredit to our state and so distracting as to be a menace to safe driving.

Other states have taken steps to get rid of or to limit billboards. With its abundance of natural beauty Oregon should be the next to take this step along lines proposed in SB 188.

Worriers in the Canby-Molalla area were reassured by a wire from Congressman Norblad that he understood that the air force had decided against considering that area as a site for an air academy. Norblad commented that "the air force is getting pretty far ahead of itself as Congress hasn't yet agreed that they should build an air academy." And the Canby-Molalla farmers were getting terribly upset about nothing at all, it seems. The government, like God, often works in mysterious ways its wonders to perform. Slow, too.

The Air Force complains it is running out of targets in Korea. Still the Red armies seem to be getting plenty of chow and hardware to throw at the UN forces. The good old infantry still remains the "queen of battles."

DOWN, BOY, DOWN!



Comes the Dawn

SPORTS SPECIAL—Salem—The Oregon Legislature House of Representatives basketball team defeated the Senate team 6 to 2 in a hard fought game today.

The House's greater reserve strength and canny knowledge of legislative procedure contributed greatly to victory over the Senate team.

The game was played in the rotunda of the State Capitol before a cheering crowd of lobbyists, newspapermen, state employees and a delegation of school teachers from Drain.

Opening whistle was delayed while referee Paul (Slats) Patterson gave a 20-minute speech in which he outlined the rules and history of basketball. He also told the players what he expected of them—namely fair play and a clean game. He also asked them to complete the game in the allotted time.

After the Senate team attempted to further delay the game by passing a resolution to adjourn until the next day—which referee Patterson overruled—the battle got underway.

After 10 minutes of heated play, in which the players shook hands with each other and with most of the spectators, Coach Wilhelm's House team scored the first two points. The House team immediately went into a caucus on the floor and came up with a bill to end the game right there. The Senate squad refused to concur and after several attempted amendments, also defeated, play was resumed.

While Senate forward "Hoop" Yeater was making an impromptu talk to the gallery a House player stole the ball and made a basket. Then Senate Coach Marsh rushed in "Deadeye" Neuberger to replace Yeater. But, because his Republican teammates refused to play with Democrat Neuberger, "Deadeye" had to steal the ball from the opposition.

He finally scored the Senate team's lone two points. Senate player "Hoot" Gibson then called time. He wanted to know how large a fee the referee was getting. When told the fee was \$10, "Hoot" said he would not continue to play unless the fee was lowered to \$5. He finally left the game in a huff—an old one left over from the last legislature.

The first half ended with the score 4-2. Trouble ensued during a half-time meeting of coaches, assistants, trainers and referee. House trainer "Moose" Hatfield suggested that a convention of coaches be called immediately to draw up a new set of rules.

Assistant House Coach "Yo-Yo" Harvey suggested that whenever a player was charged with a foul that player had to don a different-colored jersey bearing a larger numeral than the rest. Harvey also revealed he had evidence of several speculators betting on the game's outcome.

As the second half opened the House team, which was ahead, attempted to lay the game on the table. This motion was defeated and play resumed. While the Senate team arguing over whether its water-boy should serve the team water by the drink or by the bucket, the House made another tally.

Then the House squad put on a masterful exhibition of last-minute stalling. The players ran around in circles for nearly 15 minutes—so that neither the crowd nor the opposing team knew who had the ball or who was playing. It was learned later that several players didn't even know the score.

As the end of play neared the frantic Senate team attempted to suspend the rules and call for a vote on continuing the game for another hour. Senate Coach Marsh explained his team's point in a desperate 15-minute oration.

Assistant House coach "Livewire" Sweetland made a brilliant answering argument. Sweetland, who had secretly been turing out most of the lights in the rotunda during the game in order to save electricity, said that if the game went into overtime it would mean a drain on electrical power.

The timekeepers, consisting of three supreme court judges, overruled the Senate team and the game ended there.

Israel Envoy Leaves Russia

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP)—Samuel Eliaschim, Israel's minister to Moscow before Russia broke diplomatic relations, arrived here by plane from Moscow Sunday night en route to Tel Aviv.

Russian diplomatic interests in Israel.

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IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page one)

Arab-Asian bloc is revealed in the first quotation; but it should be added that none of the 12 is furnishing military aid now. They are "neutralist" as far as participation goes, though they don't want to see Russia and Communism expand into their own countries.

The delegates' lounge at UN will be buzzing next week as representatives try to find out what Stalin said to Mennon. The latter, a Gandhi pacifist, has been trying to bring the Korean War to a conclusion. At the previous session Vishinsky gave the Indian proposal repeated tongue-lashings. It is not to be expected that Stalin has changed his mind. The real question is whether Mennon, in his zeal to end the war, has agreed to concessions which the United Nations Command could not honorably accept. Hence the concern over the Mennon visit.

Lodge will find himself in a difficult position. American actionists have been proposing a China blockade, further economic boycott of China, and varying degrees of greater military activity in Korea. These have served to frighten our allies such as Britain and to alarm the neutralists who fear a spread of the war. The very change in administrations in Washington has been unsettling, and NATO nations have been nervous over the remarks of Secretary of Dulles. All of these worries will be voiced as Ambassador Lodge

sits down with representatives of other UN members. He is apt to find the going rough. All the UN members are eager to conclude the Korean War, but most of them let the USA carry the load.

This reveals the traditional weakness of alliances. Conflicting aims, conflicting ideas, working at cross purposes prevent the unity of planning and of acting which a single authority can exercise. All the diplomatic skill of Lodge and of Dulles will be required to obtain general endorsement of any program calling for sacrifice of member nations or offering the excuse of possible spread of the war for an objection. Their work is made harder by the over-zealous Americans who think the Korean stalemate can be ended by some quick trick like blockading the China coast. The UN allies are still afraid of MacArthur and his satellites.

This week the country, and the world will await with interest and considerable anxiety developments at United Nations. They will listen especially for what Senator Lodge has to say and what Ambassador Mennon reports.

At King's Mountain, one of the most important battles and greatest American victories in the Revolutionary war, only one Briton fought: Major Ferguson. All under his command were American Tories.

In color television, the primary colors are not, blue and yellow. Rather they are red, blue and green. This combination was picked, the experts say, because they not only will reproduce white in the proper combination but will affect all other hues as well.



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Showdown With Sen. McCarthy Likely as Next Step by Eisenhower Administration

By JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON—A reckoning with Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, of Wisconsin is very likely to be the next stage in the Eisenhower administration's shake-down into an effective working team.

This fascinating and impressive shake-down process has one main feature—gradual recognition of the unpalatable truth that hard facts are not magically altered by national elections.

Budget facts, tax facts, defense facts, and foreign relations facts have remained very much as they are, and are having to be dealt with by Eisenhower as by Truman. McCarthyism, as the Administration leaders are realizing, is another unchanged fact that has to be dealt with.

The truth of the matter is that McCarthy and certain of his congressional intimates apparently think the Eisenhower administration is just as fair game as its predecessor. And since the election has given McCarthy and the other like-minded Republicans control of their investigating committees, they are not subject to any restraint whatever.

McCarthy's immediate target, of course, is the State Department and its allied agencies, such as the Voice of America. With regard to the department, itself, the tactic adopted by McCarthy is to invite every malcontent in the organization, (which numbers some 40,000

people) to tell his or her story. Thus far there have been two of these tellers of tales out of school, a file clerk, Mr. Balog, and a security officer, John E. Matson. Their stories have added up to the fact that the State Department filing and security system wants reorganization and tightening.

Reform of the State Department, and restoration of public confidence in the department and its officers, are of course, among Secretary of State John Foster Dulles' chief objectives. There is no doubt that the reform will have to extend to the filing and security systems.

But orderly reform cannot be carried out, and public confidence certainly cannot be restored, while every disgruntled clerk is encouraged to blacken the State Department's name under the full glare of national publicity. Secretary Dulles cannot do his extremely necessary job under a drumfire of attacks by McCarthy and other like-minded investigators-law makers.

The case of the Voice of America, is, if anything, even more acute. This wretched organization was originally established on the motion of McCarthy's committee colleague, Sen. Karl Mundt, of South Dakota. Almost from the day of its establishment, it has been treated by Congress as silly gardeners' treat pulled up by the roots to see how it was going along. If there have been foolish policies and wasteful practices in the Voice of America, the main reason is that the "Voice" has never had time to settle down to its job.

Again, there is little doubt that the "Voice," and indeed the whole ridiculously swollen American information program, should be thoroughly overhauled. But what reputable man will choose to tackle this assignment, as long as McCarthy is waiting in the wings with a hatchet?

These questions have already thrust themselves, rather rudely, on Secretary Dulles and his co-workers. The new Under Secretary of State in Charge of Administration, Donald Lourie, has come to the department from the cloistered confines of the Quaker Oats Company. A Chicago business man who had mainly read McCarthy's side of the story in the home-town press, Lourie is known to have been astonished, appalled and angered by the conditions that actually confronted him when he took over his new office.

A former football player, Lourie is a two-fisted fighter. The tattletale security officer, Matson, was transferred out of the head office, to work on a beat, after he had given his testimony. This caused Sen. McCarthy to shout a threat to Samuel Boykin, acting director of the State Department's Security Bureau, that he would have him thrown out of his job. But Under Secretary Lourie was in fact only persuaded with great difficulty not to dismiss the McCarthy pet, Matson, out of hand.

For all these reasons, Secretary Dulles and Vice-President Richard Nixon will shortly meet with Sen. McCarthy, to see whether some sort of modus vivendi can be worked out. But there are two obstacles to any such agreement.

First, Sen. McCarthy will almost certainly ask for the head of every State Department office who has ever incurred his enmity, which Secretary Dulles cannot honorably grant. Second, Sen. McCarthy has higher ambitions than a mere blood purge in the State Department. Any limitations on his peculiar methods of attaining these ambitions are not likely to suit him. This is why it is a good bet that the Eisenhower administration is eventually going to have to fight McCarthyism at home, just as it has to fight Stalinism abroad.

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