The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

Statesman Publishing Company
CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher

Published every morning. Business office 280 North Church St., Salem, Ore., Telephone 2-2441.

Entered at the postoffice at Salem, Ore., as second class matter under act of Congress March 3, 1879.

Member Associated Press
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Private Exploitation of Fission

David Lilienthal was vigorously opposed as a radical when he was chaiman of TVA. Either his experience in managing this big government project and as chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, or the maturing of his judgment has tempered what socialist predilections he may have had. He has written articles and a book which not only justify "big business", as far as size goes, but urge the government to allow private industry to exploit atomic energy. The force of his argument is now recognized by the Atomic Energy Commission, for it is getting ready to recommend action along that line.

At present atomic fission is a government monopoly. Even private possession of uranium is illegal, except in very small quantities. And private enterprise is denied the right to produce fissionable materials. The AEC proposals look toward licensing of private corporations for use of the fission process in production of electric power or other commercial development. Companies which have worked in this field under government authority include such concerns as Dow Chemical and Monsanto Chemical. They hope their research will turn up many valuable and practical uses of atomic energy.

In producing electric energy from uranium its atoms are split. The intense heat given off is transformed into steam power to run electric dynamos. This process also yields plutonium, one of the essentials of the atomic bomb. The government would have to buy the plutonium both for national security and human safety.

No fear is felt at present that atomic energy will displace present sources of electric energy. So great will be the cost of the current, at least initially, that atomic generation will be practical only in areas remote from fuel supply or hydro potential. But such is the ingenuity of man that we may be sure research will lower costs and will find fresh uses for the products of fission. It is important to give private industry freedom for inquiry and utilization, under government license. In that way values will be discovered more rapidly and made available for the use of humanity.

The world is at the threshhold of a new age. Atomic energy should be set free for uses of peace, not chained to the chariot of War.

Put Out That Spark

The Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs is happy because a bill they sponsored, SB 394, has been passed and signed by the Governor. It makes it unlawful *at any time* for anyone to throw any lighted cigarets, matches, firecrackers or other lighted material on any forest land, private road, public highway or railroad right of way. Previously the ban was in effect only during the closed season in forestry.

This will force a good many motorists to change their habits. How often has one seen sparks ahead on the paving where a motorist has tossed out the butt of his cigaret. Now he'll have to crush ou the sparks in his ash tray—or else swallow the darned thing.

It's a move in the direction of fire prevention, but its observance will require a lot of public education. Careless habits are hard to break.

Unfair Picketing

Regardless of his effort to make a worthwhile contribution to industrial peace in Oregon Governor Patterson's offer of a labor bill was not well timed. The session is well advanced. A more moderate bill was substituted for the original employer package. This has passed the House and is up for consideration in the Senate.

The principle contained in this bill is sound, namely that picketing should not be used to force unionization of employes. That is not fair to the employes, to the employer or to the public. The mechanics proposed may be imperfect; but some system should be set up to determine whether a bona fide labor dispute exists which justifies a picket parade.

Accustomed so long to fighting for every inch they get labor leaders feel they must oppose every concession. If they would admit the injustice of picketing for forcing unionization they could help greatly in writing a practical and fair law. It still is needed even over their opposition.

Police Chief Ted Brown of Eugene has turned down Official Detective Magazine's award (a scroll and wristwatch) for his part in the solution of the Maud Wood murder last year. The award is given each month to officers for "outstanding" police work. But Chief Brown says the magazine's account of the Wood case and his part in it was "fictionalized to the point of distortion and untruth" and so he is refusing the honor. He says he didn't solve the crime by himself; that men of his department, state police officers and out-of-state police agencies all helped. Brown's attitude is commendable; it is high time someone in authority exposed the "true" detective magazines who have little regard for facts in their stories.

We refuse to become agitated over the deadlock over salaries of judges of the state supreme court. A bill to raise them to $12,000 was sent back to the ways and means committee with instructions to make the figure $12,500. There the bill is reported tabled in subcommittee. If no action is taken and the bill dies judges will continue to get only $10,500. We may be sure some one will "give" and the members of the supreme court not left waiting on the station platform while other state officials are safely on the salary escalator.

Judge Leonard Hall of New York has been elected Chairman of the Republican National Committee. He says he will not take a salary as he will engage in the practice of law as he did while serving as Congressman. Oh, Oh! That's a risky combination. He'll have no lack of clients. But can he keep his left hand (the chairmanship) from being affected by what the right hand (law practice) is doing? Wouldn't it be better for the party to pay him a salary and require him to devote full time to the chairmanship?

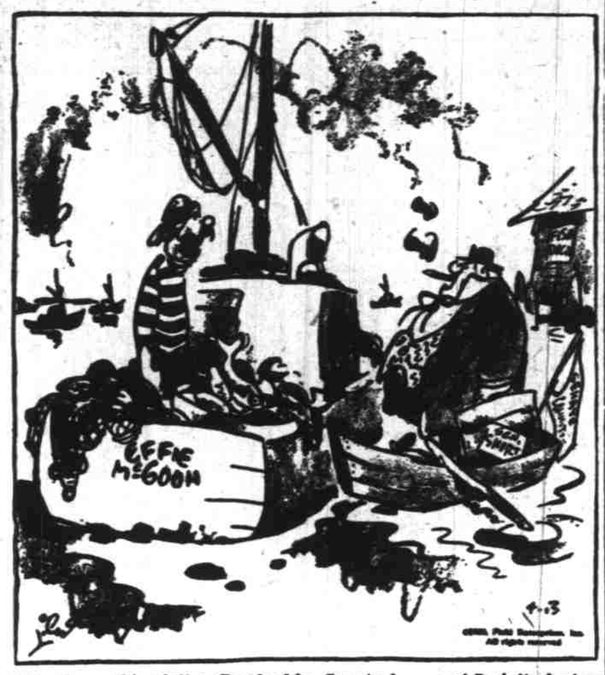
The Oregon Museum of Science and Industry has struggled along with limited resources from persons who are friends of the project. It seeks and certainly merits some state support; and some seems to be forthcoming at this session of the Legislature. The state needs a real museum in natural history, geology, astronomy and mechanics. This one, which has been making slow but steady progress in Portland, will thrive if it gets proper support.

It is true that the Secretary of State gets his name on a lot of public documents. Thus he receives much name publicity which has "advertising" value in political races. However, we question the wisdom of legislative action to delete the official's name from public documents. After all it IS a person who holds the office, not a neuter robot. Even the earliest of Oregon documents show the identity of the official publishing them. Abuse of the authority may be condemned, but the privilege should not be abolished.

Requiring all Oregon schools to display an Oregon state flag is just a sign of provincialism. Surely Oregon is not as guilty of self-pride as Texas and California which were cited as states which now have such a requirement. Keeping a decent-looking American flag flying under the whip of winds is enough expense for school districts, and enough of a chore for school janitors. The Governor would do well to veto this bill which now has passed both houses of the Legislature.

The organization of a Parakeet club (by the bird-owners not the birds) here in Salem ought to be of considerate interest to parakeets and their masters. The announcement said that open forums will be held. Will the parrots ("Aarrk!") be allowed to join the discussion or will the human talkers give them the bird?

GRIN AND BEAR IT — By Lichty



"Nope! . . . this ain't a Greek ship, Senator! . . . an' I ain't signing no secret treaties unless it's for raising the price of fish! . . ."

Northwest History

By Dan E. Clark
Professor emeritus of history, University of Oregon

Today's Question: **When Was Spain's Claim to the Pacific Northwest Eliminated?**

Spain was one of four nations laying claims to portions of the Pacific Northwest, basing her claim on maritime explorations along the coast. In 1790, after a violent controversy over possession of Nootka Sound on Vancouver Island, Spain yielded her rights in that region to England, but still asserted her claims along the coast indefinitely northward from California.

On February 22, 1819, following troubles along the Florida borden, the United States and Spain signed a treaty by which the latter ceded Florida to the United States. During the course of the negotiations which preceded this treaty, John Quincy Adams, our Secretary of State, realized the opportunity to include within their scope a definition of a boundary between the United States and Spanish possessions on the south and west. This boundary had been left entirely indefinite at the time of the Louisiana Purchase. Then Adams formulated another plan, namely to induce Spain to agree to a line marking the northern limit of her claims on the Pacific Coast. If Spain were to cede to the United States all her rights above such a line it would strengthen our case in the contest with Great Britain over the possession of the Pacific Northwest. The agreement on the lengthy boundary between the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific Ocean was reached only after a long series of proposals and counterproposals, and after concessions of both sides. Adams at first held out for the 41st parallel in the Pacific Northwest, and the Spanish ultimately proposed a boundary along a fictitious river, known as the Multnomah, until it intersected the 43rd parallel and along that parallel to the Pacific. Finally, the negotiators compromised on the 42nd parallel as the boundary.

Thus was established the first definite international boundary in the Pacific Northwest—a line which is the present southern boundary of the states of Oregon and Idaho. Scarcely had the treaty been ratified when Mexican independence was proclaimed, and so the 42nd parallel became and remained a part of the boundary between the United States and the new republic until the close of the Mexican War in 1848.

Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

MARY MAGDALENE, by Raymond-Leopold Bruckberger, O. P., translated from French by H. L. Binsse (Pantheon; $3, with notes, $4)

"A very great soul in a magnificent body" . . . so Father Bruckberger describes Mary Magdalene in this book appearing opportunely at the season when the crucifixion and the resurrection are solemnly remembered.

The church of Saint-Maximin, perfect but incomplete Gothic structure, near Marseille, is the proud repository of the remains of Lazarus, Martha and Mary, as travelers and pilgrims attest. This little Bethany family of three, we are told, particularly close to Christ and hence particularly hated, stayed prudently in seclusion in Palestine after the crucifixion. In an illustration in this book, Lucas Moser depicts Mary crossing to France by boat, and name her Mary Magdalene, not Mary, not Mary of Bethany.

The question considered in what Father Bruckberger calls his "Detective Story" is how many of the Bibical Marys may be the Magdalene. Always carefully identified are Mary the Mother of Christ and Mary the mother of James and Joseph. There are others . . . the sinful woman in Luke, Mary of Bethany, Mary Magdalene. The last three have been called different persons. This Dominican author believes they are one and the same.

Likened to the Phryne of the Greks, and later to their Antigone also, she is pictured as a beautiful young woman of good family who first moved into Christ's sacrosanct entourage as a courtesan in the court of Herod. There she is supposed, according to our author to have met John, whose prophetic mission she carried on "more than any other saint the Virgin Mary apart," says Father Bruckberger, "she was associated with Christ's natural and supernatural destiny."

The use of a modern terminology . . . like "detective story" for a sort of exegesis, or the description of Christ as "the most anti-cellophane being imaginable" . . . embarrasses me, probably for no good reason, either. But aside from details, this is a scholarly evocation of special interest to the devout and not without appeal to the general reader.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Contipued from page one)

can arrive at conclusions respecting the speed of rearming.

As for cooperation of governors that can be relied on, regardless of party, when grave issues are at stake. That was true in World War II and is true today. Actually the degree of gubernatorial cooperation is strictly limited. Governors are busy administering state affairs. While they take a keen interest in national and world affairs responsibilities in those areas lie with the Congress and the executive department of the federal government.

I come back to this question in may own mind, has the administration really matured a policy on foreign and domestic matters which it is ready to reveal and to rally support for? If it has that will be the important thing, not the visitaion of the governors to Washington.

Only a few days ago, however, there was evidently a collision between the State Department and the White House over U. S. policy on a Korean settlement. When reporters, on authority, told that the U. S. was disposed to insist on a truce line at the "waist" of Korea, the White House quickly tried to cancel that report. If in May a confidential. firsthand picture of the world situation is to be drawn, let us hope there is no conflict among the artists.

Theories on Size, Age of Cosmos Upset

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — More than two years ago a noted astronomer, using the 200-inch telescope on Palomar Mountain, tried to find a certain type of star in the great spiral nebula of the constellation Andromeda.

The star didn't show. Its failure to appear has led to a major upset, almost a revolution, in astronomical calculations about the age, size and other things concerning the universe.

Some of the results:

1. Astronomers now calculate the age of the universe at 4 billion years instead of 2 billion.

2. The observable part of the universe is eight times as large as previously supposed.

3. The universe is expanding only half as fast as astronomers thought.

Milky Way Larger

4. All galaxies, stars and vast clouds of dust and gas beyond the Milky Way are twice as large as hitherto believed and twice as far away as previously calculated. There, our Milky Way no longer looms as a giant among galaxies.

Dr. Waler Baade, he asronomer, told of these sweeping changes, in a press release from the California Institute of Technology.

Basis for the change is that there are two species of "yardstick" stars—dim ones and bright ones—instead of only one as formerly believed. These stars are called cepheid variables.

Stars Fade, Brighten

They vary in brightness by as much as 2½ times over regular periods, usually about one day. Their clocklike variations enable astronomers to compute their actual brilliancy and therefore their distance from the earth.

Dr. Baade said astronomers, assuming all cepheids were of the same brilliancy, had been using dim cepheid variables for measuring distances within the Milky Way and bright ones for distances beyond.

The star that failed to show in Andromeda was a dim cepheid variable. When Dr. Baade found he couldn't see it, even with the worlds most powerful telescope, he realized the galaxy must be further away than thought.

One by one, observatories around the world came up with verification. As a result, astronomers now have a much bigger universe to probe.

The big Palomar "eye" has reached out two billion light years and still has not reached the end.

Near Half Billion Dollars Cut From Truman Budget

WASHINGTON (AP)—The new administration has so far announced that it will ask Congress for 448¾ million dollars less in appropriations for the coming fiscal year than former President Truman recommended.

Truman said Congress should appropriate $72,900,000,000 to help run the government in the fiscal year beginning July 1. Therefore the cuts suggested so far represent seven-tenths of one per cent less than Truman proposed.

But, the big spenders, chiefly the Department of Defense and the Mutual Security Agency, have not yet been heard from.

Thirteen of the government's 56 independent offices and agencies have reported cuts from the Truman fiscal 1954 budget which average 15 per cent. The Agriculture Department asked Congress for about 8 per cent less than Truman requested for it. The Interior Department has asked for 9 per cent less. The Commerce Department asked for 15 per cent less, Treasury 7.6 per cent, Labor 3.5 per cent and Justice 4 per cent less.

Board of Control to Discuss Fair Fund

Next meeting of the state board of control has been slated for Tuesday when several problems dealing with the current legislative session will be considered.

One deals with a proposed appropriation of $50,000 for the state fair commission.

Four Children Die in Blaze

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y. (AP)—Four children perished early Sunday in a fire that raced through their remote rural home as they slept. Two other persons were injured.

The two families that lived in the frame farmhouse atop Primrose Hill, 14 miles north of here, lost two children each.

The dead were identified as Audrey Nero, 10; her sister, Agnes, 6; Dennis Storms, 5, and his sister, Rose Mary, 2.

Betty Joan Nero, 12, and her mother, Mrs. Agnes Nero Butler, were burned but jumped from a second story window.

Dutchess County Sheriff Fred Close said a faulty kerosene stove apparently caused the fire.

Truman's Wreath On Roosevelt Grave

HYDE PARK, N. Y. (AP)—A wreath from former President Truman was laid Sunday on the grave of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt in ceremonies commemorating the eighth anniversary of Roosevelt's death.

The wreath sent by Truman, vacationing in Hawaii, was placed on the grave by Mrs. Roosevelt, the president's widow.

Spring Oddities Include Robin Attacking Hubcaps

CHARLES MERCER
Newsfeatures Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—Spring was working its old magic last week. People—and birds and bees—greeted it in curious ways.

A male robin in West Orange, N. J., launched his spring campaign for a mate by trying to eliminate competition. Everywhere he flew he saw shiny auto hubcaps and in each hubcap he saw a belligerent male robin trying to eliminate competition. When last heard from he'd practically knocked himself out — and it appeared he was so busy with the competition he hadn't yet found a mate.

Moral: Don't worry about the competition this spring, gentlemen. You may be looking in a hubcap.

Thursday Unlucky?

Speaking of the mating season, a New York hotel announced a startling discovery: Practically nobody gets married on Thursday. The hotel offered to knock 10 per cent off the rental price of its ballroom for Thursday wedding receptions. It added that it could not explain this aversion to marrying on Thursdays.

Explanation: Most paydays come on Friday.

Strike for Coeds

Springtime notes from all over:

In Mexico City 7,000 male normal school students returned to classes after a 10-day strike. What did they strike for? Co-eds. And if some co-eds don't show up soon, said the students, they'll strike again.

Near New Delhi, India, a wandering holy man gave his traditional blessing to a woman and was attacked and badly beaten by a mob.

Recovering in a hospital, he pondered his blessing to the woman who led the attack: "May you be the mother of seven sons."

Turned out the woman already had nine children . . .

In Tokyo Easter sunrise services got off to a fitting start when the organ was played by Miss Easter Lily King . . . Later in the day in Tokyo 1,100 kids got lost while their parents gaped at the cherry blossoms. Police rounded them up, sorted them out, and returned them to their rightful owners . . .

The next day an enterprising soul opened a charm school for strip tease girls in Tokyo, promising they would be taught to "smile by using the eyes . . ."

Oh, Fickle Woman

Spring vame to Perth Amboy, N. J., too.

Hans Anderson, 67, was standing on a street corner there when a car pulled up and a young, beautiful woman stepped out and asked him directions.

"Suddenly she started hugging and kissing me," Anderson sighed later. "And then she told me I was a nice man and gave me a goodbye kiss. I was so excited and she was so nice . . ."

Well, some time later Anderson reached for his wallet. It and contents of $450 were missing.

Comment: None.

Bee in Bonnet

These spring Sunday mornings bees have been swarming to services at the Baptist Church in Bellevue, O. Worshippers have complained.

Solution: Put a bee in the sexton's bonnet. Ask him to keep the windows closed.

Allies Oppose Russian Air Corridor Plan

LONDON (AP) — British sources predicted Saturday that a Soviet proposal for a single big air corridor linking Berlin and West Germany will be rejected by Allied negotiators.

The idea was advanced last Tuesday, by Gen. I. D. Podgorny in talks with American, British and French air officials as a means of preventing cold war plane incidents, such as the shooting down of a British Lincoln bomber by two Russian MIG jet fighters March 12.

Under the Russian plan, a funner-shaped corridor, 56 miles wide at its narrowest point at Berlin, would run west toward Hanover, and would be used by all Western air traffic.

British sources said this would sever the direct air link between Germany's former capital and Frankfurt in the American zone.

"I imagine that it would be technically impossible for the Americans to maintain their flying schedules with Berlin under such a system," one source said.

The one corridor, nearly 100 miles wide at its Western end, would replace three corridors 20 miles wide which now fan out from Berlin to the northwest toward Hamburg, west toward Hanover and southwest toward Frankfurt. All cross the Soviet zone.

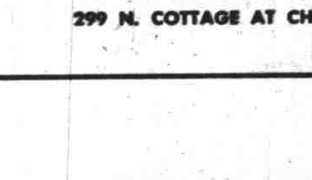
An informant here said, however, the objections did not "mean that anything like a deadlock has developed."

"The Soviet suggestion was not slammed down as a 'take-it-or-leave it' condition, but is subject to negotiation. I imagine that the Western allies now will explain their reasoned objections to the Soviet suggestion, and I would say that the outlook is exceedingly hopeful. The atmosphere of the talks so far has been very happy," the informant said.

P-TA to Elect On Wednesday

Marion County Council of Parents and Teachers will elect and install officers Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. meeting in the Salvation Army building here. Mrs. Fred Corn, Depoe Bay, a regional P-TA vice president, will conduct the installation.

A ladies' quartet from Aumsville will sing during the evening's entertainment program. Current president of the county organization is Mrs. L. S. Shuford.



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RADIO SALEM KSLM

Western Allies Need to Man Outposts to Watch for Clues of Latest Red Maneuvers

By WILLIAM L. RYAN
AP Foreign News Analyst

It would seem to be a good idea for the West to post a careful watch on doings in the satellite Communist nations and parties of Europe these days for clues to what is going on inside the Soviet Union.

Already there are indications in the satellite countries that the Communist leaders are scared. They might back the wrong horse in the Kremlin stakes.

This same symptom also is noticeable in the press of the Soviet Union itself. One of the most intriguing things about the Soviet press these days is the lack of prominent mention of any of the leaders who took over after Stalin died.

Premier Malenkov gets a little more mention than First Deputy Premier Beria. Frequently Malenkov, Beria and Foreign Minister Molotov are mentioned all together. But there has been a radical change from the Stalin days.

Before Stalin died, it was not possible to read through a Soviet editorial without finding reference many times to what "Comrade Stalin teaches," or without some remarks about his glories.

These days there are many editorials which not only fail to mention Stalin, but neglect to mention anybody. The Communist Party is the authority cited now.

This state of affairs could cause extreme nervousness among the satellite leaders. If the struggle for power is not concluded, it is dangerous for them to be too deferential to any one of a number of Soviet leaders still in the sweepstakes. Such words might have a haunting quality later on.

Upon the death of Stalin, satellite leaders rushed to Moscow, ostensibly for the funeral but actually in an attempt to get the lowdown on what would happen next. Apparently they are still in the dark. They seem to be guessing, like all the rest of us.

The situation is doubly nervous in Czechoslovakia, where the death of President Klement Gottwald, the party boss, so soon after the Stalin funeral, left an added vacuum and still more confused a confused situation for the Communists.

When the satellite leaders and the satellite press get to toadying to one Soviet leader more than another, we will have a good idea who is ahead in the Kremlin sweeps.

Meanwhile, it is not even too safe for them to call upon Stalin's name too frequently or too respectfully.

Since the Kremlin is pushing Stalin into the background more and more, there is no guarantee for the worried Reds of the satellite empire that in time to come the master will not be largely discredited.

The safest thing for the satellite leaders to do now is to call for "unity and solidarity" with the Soviet Union. That's what they are doing.

Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "In so far as I know, he values my friendship above any other."

2. What is the correct pronunciation of "cloture"?

3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Mollusk, molasses, mollify, mollecular.

4. What does the word "propitious" mean?

5. What is a word beginning with inv that means "a violent accusation"?

ANSWERS

1. Omit "in," and say, "more than any other." 2. Pronounce klo-tur, o as in no, u as in use, accent first syllable. 3. Molecular. 4. Attended by favorable circumstances. "At a propitious moment, Charles rose and addressed the chairman." 5. Invective.

CHARLES W. CLAGGET, Mgr.

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