

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Irresponsible Allies

Of all the wildly irresponsible actions in history that of the South Koreans in turning loose 26,000 prisoners of war is one of the worst. And it was done with the approval of President Syngman Rhee. Previously he had on many occasions shown how stubborn and unreasonable he is, but never has he done anything of such serious consequence as this. This release delays the whole armistice, and creates a deep division between South Korea and UN command which came to rescue that country. Rhee grieves over the division of his country at the 38th parallel. He ought to grieve more over the rift he has caused with his friends and allies, for this was due to his own action, not to circumstances beyond his control.

President Eisenhower has protested and Gen. Mark Clark accused Rhee of breaking his personal commitment. The Communist truce negotiators demand a roundup of the prisoners of war and hold off on signing the armistice agreement. It surely is a heluva mess, with no clear path out.

How are you going to get back 26,000 Koreans who have been turned loose when Rhee urged his people to give them shelter and protection? Doubtless they have scattered over the country, and it would be an almost endless task to round them all up. Failing in that, what happens next?

The press reports from Panmunjon stated that the Reds did not close the door to an armistice. It may be that one may yet be concluded. But as matters now stand, anything can happen in Korea—or nothing, which could be worse.

## Truman Order Modified

During his time in office President Truman issued an order the effect of which was virtually to seal news of federal departments under a rigid system of classification. The press moved promptly to get the order killed or relaxed, but met with no success. Last week President Eisenhower made some changes pointing in the direction of freeing the flow of government news. He says that secrecy should be imposed only in the national defense, but though taking from 29 federal agencies power to classify information for its restriction, he permits heads of five cabinet departments and eleven agencies to retain this power. (Classified information is graded as top secret, secret and confidential.) So there still is a considerable degree of authorized censorship.

News media will keep hammering away at attempts to bottle up information, as opposed to the public interest. Much of the so-called secret matter could be published without danger to national security. Give an official the power of censorship and he is almost certain to invoke it when he doesn't want news to get out. Freedom of information, subject of course to the limits of national protection, is indispensable for the operation of a democratic government. The

various professional groups combatting news barriers can take some heart at the Eisenhower order, and press on to remove remaining undesirable roadblocks all along the line.

## The Durable Harry Bridges

As the Oregon Journal says, Harry Bridges seems to have "nine lives," like a cat. He has survived deportation proceedings and criminal charges in battles reaching back 14 years. Here is the record:

In 1939 the Immigration Service sought his deportation but after a hearing lasting nine weeks with Dean James M. Landis of Harvard Law School Bridges was cleared and the charges dismissed. In 1940 a bill passed the lower house of Congress to deport him, but was sidetracked in the Senate.

A second deportation hearing was held in San Francisco with Judge Sears of New York presiding. Sears concluded Bridges had been affiliated with the Communist Party and recommended his deportation. When the case got to the Supreme Court in 1945 Sears was overruled, in an opinion by the late Justice Francis Murphy.

The most recent proceeding was on a criminal charge of perjury. The trial lasted four months in 1949-50, and resulted in his conviction, and was followed by an order revoking his naturalization. The conviction of Bridges was sustained by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals; but last Monday the Supreme Court ruled the indictment was faulty because of the statute of limitations.

It is reported the Justice department is considering bringing a new case to revoke his naturalization. Unless it has new and convincing evidence it may be working again on a dead end street. Bridges hasn't exhausted the fabled nine lives of a lucky cat.

## Editorial Comment

### DECEPTION IN REFERENDUM ON "CIVIL FREEDOM"

Over the opposition of certain hotel and public entertainment interests, the 1953 Oregon Legislature adopted a law which seeks to ensure equal treatment for all persons in such establishments, regardless of race, religion or social status. Petitions are now being circulated for a referendum on this measure. It is the privilege of any person or group to take an appeal to the people from a law, but this appeal masquerades under false colors because the petitioners call themselves the "civil freedom committee."

It is the custom of protesting groups to use catch names and catch phrases to promote their causes, but in this case, the use of the words "civil freedom" is such an obvious fraud it should merit rebuke by the voters. It may be argued that the proprietors of public establishments are also entitled to "civil freedom," meaning the right to pick and choose with whom they will trade. This is not civil freedom in the broad meaning of the term.

Through many centuries, the common law has held that the person who opens an inn, or a place of public entertainment, has taken on an obligation as well as a privilege. In return for the privilege of "paying guests," he accepts the obligation to extend his hospitality to all who come to his doors, provided only they are decent and well-behaved.

The new Oregon law seeks simply to confirm the right of all citizens to equal consideration in public places. Its penalties are very mild. It merely parallels the Fair Employment Practices Act adopted in 1949 which seeks to guarantee to every citizen his right to a job on equal terms (a law which is too often flaunted by labor unions).

These laws are useful, mainly because of the intent which they state. Laws cannot create morals nor abate prejudice, but they can prevent extreme abuses and serve as a guide to what enlightened conduct ought to be.

It is our hope that most voters will refuse to sign these petitions under their false colors and that the people in the 1954 election will not be burdened with this race issue.—Eugene Register-Guard.

## World Wonders What Russia Plans Next After Violent Reaction to Red New Policy

By JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOFF

WASHINGTON — This week is likely to go down in history as the week when everybody's satellites raised Cain.

The situation is still insane, but at least one point is generally accepted in the higher circles of the American government. The riots in Berlin and the release of war prisoners in Seoul have sharply interrupted, if they have not actually reversed, the well-marked trend of Soviet policy.

Too little attention has been paid, at least by the general public in the United States, to this new Soviet trend a way from the rigidities of Stalin's last years. It was going to — it may yet — present the American policy makers with their hardest choices. It is worth defining with some precision. In brief, it has had four main phases.

First, Moscow and Peking broke the deadlock in the Korean truce talks, with the obvious intention of creating a new international atmosphere.

Second, Moscow immediately sought to exploit the new atmosphere by launching an intensive deadly serious drive for a four-power meeting on the highest level, which got a welcoming response from Sir Winston Churchill and other leading allied statesmen.

Third, all sorts of screws were loosened in Russia proper, in the satellites, and in the minor dealings between the Soviets

and the West. Domestic political consideration undoubtedly weighed heavily in the decision to loosen the screws in Russia and the satellites, but this general screw-loosening was also needed, as preparation for a different kind of Soviet-Western relationship.

Fourth and finally, Moscow began to give important hints, only about a fortnight ago, of the kind of cat it was preparing, in these different ways, to bring out of the bag. Only a few days ago, it was already a 2-to-1 shot that the Soviet leaders meant to make a serious, solid offer of German unification. The main features of the offer would have been permission to the Germans to choose their own government, and agreement by the allies to neutralize although not absolutely to disarm this new Germany.

The State Department has long had nightmares about such an offer, with its appeal to the Germans and its volcanic effect on American policy in Europe, which is now almost as rigid as Stalin's world policy was. Furthermore, there were hints that the offer for Germany would eventually be followed by a tempting offer to the Japanese. This second offer would have been aimed to induce Japan to accept a neutral status. Like that proposed for Germany.

Acceptance of these offers would have had many obvious advantages. But it would also have meant the retreat of American forces both from Japan and from Germany. And this would have knocked the whole existing structure of American strategic planning to a cocked hat.

The events of the past week have affected the new trend of Soviet policy in two quite different ways. On the one hand, the release of the North Korean prisoners radically alters the terms of the bargain that had been all but signed and sealed at Panmunjon. Maybe President Syngman Rhee's government can be brought back under control. Maybe the prisoners can all be rounded up again. But it hardly seems likely, and so the

truce-price has been materially raised for Moscow and Peking.

On the other hand, the Berlin riots most certainly have caused second thought in the Kremlin about the crucial policy of loosening the screws a few turns.

This was a familiar phenomenon in the old Russian and Austro-Hungarian empires. Throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, repeated experiments were made with more liberal policies, both by the Romanovs and the Hapsburgs. Each time, the pent-up pressures among the subject peoples would cause violent explosions as soon as the controls decreased. And then the Plehves and the Aehrenthals would move in to tighten the screws again, and to take a few extra twists just to be on the safe side.

The first part of the pattern has already appeared in Berlin. Whether the masters of the Kremlin will now react as their Romanov predecessors did, is the vital question that is still incompletely answered as these words are written.

Soviet world policy is directly involved in this question. Moscow cannot possibly make a convincing offer of German unification, against a background of wholesale executions and ruthless repressions in the Soviet zone of Germany. If the Stalinist rigidities are re-introduced they are likely to be re-introduced everywhere, in which case there will be no heavy call upon the limited ingenuity of Western leadership.

But if Moscow does not re-introduce the old repressive policy in Germany, and if the Korean truce talks are not broken off again, it will be very clear indeed that the masters of the Kremlin mean to carry through on their new policy. In short, the events of this last week have been a decisive test of the changed Soviet trend. If the change proves to be real, American policy is going to require rather hasty re-examination.

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## SIXTY-FOUR DOLLAR QUESTION



## by Tele-Vine Channel Statesman 1953

Someone's got to pay television programs, ladies, but your votes are interesting, nevertheless... survey of 12,000 housewives in Chicago showed 61 per cent wanted TV without advertising (65 per cent also preferred radio without advertising)... but 92.4 per cent preferred newspapers WITH advertising...

As for the 12,000 answers to the question: "What kind of advertising is most useful to you," here's the results—newspapers 48.6 per cent, magazines 30 per cent, television 10.5 per cent, radio 6.4 per cent... remaining 3.9 per cent scattered between direct mail, theater and billboards...

Seems like Charley Weaver's acting keeps right on stealing show from Dennis Day's voice in the Day's TV program... Applausemeter on Chance-of-a-Lifetime Friday night again proved that an ordinary-appearing man has as good chance in talent show as stunning blonde...

Here's some ammunition for those who insist lights other than TV screen should be on while TV-viewing... Better Vision Institute says authorities agree that TV is generally not harmful to eyes when it is viewed under proper conditions, even though 10 per cent of those who seek eye-care today complain of discomfort...

Other tips from Better Vision Institute, which oughts know: ... sit at eye-level with screen—don't let children lie on floor looking at TV... don't sit at an angle of more than 30 degrees or distortion will be hard on the eyes...

## The Safety Valve

Editor's Note — The Statesman received numerous communications during the last week regarding the choice of the Renoir "Venus" for the courthouse and intended to publish as many of them as possible today. The great majority were adverse to the statue. Since the issue has been settled by withdrawing the proposal of this statue, the letters now will not be used.

Bemoans Bookburning To the Editor: Fascism here we come! Front page news can be found in Al-sop's column in Sunday's paper. He reveals the fantastic and hard-to-believe facts that the U. S. State Department is bowing to the will of Senator McCarthy again and this time is ordering all books burned which contain facts or views that irritate him. Even two magazines, "The New Republic" and "The Nation" have been forever removed from the library shelves of the Calcutta mission. These two magazines can be found in the Salem library.

world around. What is the reason for our people's ignorance and paralysis concerning the national problems, when in free European countries the people have much more light and intelligence in government? Do we call this a people's democracy, a government by and for the people? Brother! Get me the smelling salts. It smells to high heaven. We are heading for a galloping not creeping fascist strong man dictatorship. Reactionary forces have created a monster out of McCarthy. No one is safe or free to express his honest convictions publicly. No wonder this is coming to pass when the press and radio have pumped the people full of propaganda about how terrible Socialism is. Why not give the whole truth about Socialism? What is it but government run directly by the people and not vicious predatory big interests as it is in this country? What is wrong with Sweden, Norway and Denmark? They are Socialistic and are progressive, very intelligent, no fanatic book-burning or restrictions there.

God help us to awaken before it is too late. ROY SANDWICK 455 Lancaster St.

## Time Flies FROM STATESMAN FILES

10 Years Ago June 21, 1943 Labor and women's organizations protested proposed higher milk prices in a public hearing before O.P.A. price specialists in Portland.

25 Years Ago June 21, 1928 Salem food merchants are having a "banana war"; lowest quotation was seven pounds for 25 cents.

40 Years Ago June 21, 1913 First Lt. F. C. Endicott, Major Carl Abrams and Capt. Max H. Gehlar are judges in the competitive drill held at Chemawa Indian School. There are 550 students enrolled.

The hills of Gettysburg, Pa., where the armies of Mead and Lee pitched their tents 50 years ago, are flecked with canvas again. The army of Civil War Veterans, 10,000 of them, is holding a jubilee reunion on the 50th anniversary.

Lew Shaw, one of the world's greatest billiard and pool players, is giving an exhibition of fancy shots at the Illihee Club in Salem.

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## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page One.)

an artistic composition of pedestal, pool, perhaps plantings and a marble wall for background, with suitable inscription—the whole to have constituted a memorial. Its emphasis in a composition of enduring beauty would have been on life and growth were what brought the pioneers to Oregon. The symbolism, however, could not be conveyed in the plain picture of the "Venus"; and the public, thinking in more literal terms of pioneer life, protested.

Very well, let Renoir's "Venus" requisit in pace; and let Salem again requisit in pace, tranquil in the thought that no French sculpture will be exposed on the courthouse lawn. For once the "Venus" was not victorious. Sic transit gloria Veni.

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## Realty Views

When I drove up to March's house, Mrs. March was just removing a "For Sale, By Owner" sign from the window. "Come in," Mrs. March called out. "It's good to see you. I want some help in selling our home."

## Rawlins Realty

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## Arabian Horse Show Tickets Now on Sale

Reserve and box seat tickets for the 7th Annual All-Arabian Horse Show at the State Fairgrounds Saturday and Sunday, June 27-28, are now on sale at Stevens & Sons Jewelers. The show, first of its kind to be held in Salem, and transferred here this year from the Portland P.J. building, will start with judging for class championships at 9 a. m. Saturday. Performance divisions are to be held at 8 p. m. Saturday and 1:30 p. m. Sunday.

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