

Oregon Statesman
No Favor Sways Us No Fear Shall Awe
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Rolling Concrete Mixers

You see one of these bulbous mobile concrete mixers rolling down the street. It doesn't look very pretty, but it is quite important in the scheme of things. For it is making delivery of concrete mix to some construction job, or hurrying back for a fresh batch. And when you realize that construction means employment and use of materials and "progress" the rotating globe ahead of you takes on a certain degree of attractiveness.

This method of supplying a ready-mix instead of the raw materials is comparatively new. Several decades ago concrete was mixed by hand labor right on the job: so many barrows of gravel, so many barrows of sand, so many bags of Portland cement; add water, then shovel and shovel and shovel, and shovel a while longer to make sure the batch was thoroughly mixed. Then came the cylinder hand-power mixer to which a gas engine soon was attached to provide power. It still was an on-the-job performance.

Some sand and gravel man with a vision conceived the idea of a central mixing plant; and so ready-mix was born and now has pretty well taken over the business except for odd jobs or for distant work. There are certain advantages in this method: greater economy in use of materials, a more accurate proportioning of ingredients, less messing on the job, more efficient use of labor.

The big idea of the global delivery truck is for it to keep moving. The truck moves to make delivery on time, and the globe rotates clockwise as the truck travels. With any delay or stopping of the rotation the cement would "set."

Concrete is the principal construction material in this part of the country. It is rather fickle too: the wrong proportions, the wrong kind of cement, poor mixing, tardy pouring and the job can go to pieces. Failures show up often in cement sidewalks whose crumbling or peeling reveal poor workmanship or poor materials. The well-done job however carries its load indefinitely.

Think how sharp the needles have been in the seat cushions of the editors of Pravda and Izvestia. How would they know whose orders to follow, Malenkov's or Beria's? And what if they guessed wrong and published the wrong man's stuff? For that matter those in all echelons of power in Russia must have been growing peptic ulcers ever since Stalin died.

Canada's new Consul General in San Francisco told a luncheon group there that his country's industrial progress outstrips that of the United States in many fields, taxes have been cut, and the cost of living is falling—and Canada operates with a balanced budget. Anyway it's nice to have such thrifty people for neighbors.

Walter Reuther is going to outdo Eisenhower and Dulles. He flew from a trades union meeting in Stockholm to Berlin to assure East German workers fighting Communism that their union brothers will give them "more than moral support." Just what it would be he didn't explain, nor can we guess.

Part of the "land of the midnight sun" had "darkness at noon" when volcanoes erupting near Anchorage, Alaska poured out smoke and ashes to blot out the sun. Mother Earth still has to belch at intervals to relieve its internal pressures.

Okinawa No 'Key' to Far East

Demaree Bess, regular contributor to the Saturday Evening Post, has an interesting article in the current issue on Okinawa, the chief island in the Ryuku group which was seized at considerable cost by the United States in the war with Japan. One of the first to visit it, as Bess points out, was Commodore Matthew Perry about the same time he obtained the treaty opening certain Japanese ports to trade.

Okinawa has been made over into a very powerful military base particularly for sea and air operations. And Bess quotes a Gen. Ralph Stearley who is retiring after several years in command there as saying:

"Okinawa is the key to the whole thing out there. The nation which controls that island will control the Far East, and that is one part of the world which can be controlled by a single nation.

"Okinawa is a bastion of defense and a base from which we can strike. A powerful balanced airforce on this island supported by the army and navy will control all military action and movement in the Far East."

At the risk of a layman's presumption in challenging a military authority we cannot help saying the General is all wrong. We control Okinawa now but we do not control the Far East save at sea and in the air. It seems utterly absurd to say that a single small island like Okinawa gives full control of the Far East; and even more absurd to say that the Far East can be controlled by a single nation. It never has been controlled by a single nation, and the future offers no promise that it will.

Okinawa itself could be made untenable unless the occupying nation maintained control of the sea around it and the air over it. If Okinawa is so vital why do military men stress the importance of bases in Japan and the Philippines and Formosa remaining in friendly hands?

Historically our policy has been to prevent any single nation from dominating China and eastern Asia. That was the basis for John Hay's Open Door policy, for our steady insistence on preserving the integrity of China, for our friendly attitude toward Japan vis-a-vis Russia in the early 1900s, for our resistance to Japan's attempt to impose its "sphere of influence" on the Far East, and for our intervention in Korea to prevent its succumbing to Communist (Russian) authority.

Okinawa is important as an advanced base; but its possession is not determinative nor would its loss be fatal to U.S. power and position. After all we lost the Philippines, Guam and Wake in 1941-42; but recovered them all—and seized Okinawa from the Japanese.

German Revolt Reveals Soviet Weakness; Episode May Be Turning Point in History

By STEWART ALSOP

BERLIN—What has been happening in East Germany has transformed the whole world situation. The best way to understand what has been happening is to consider in some detail certain recent events in the small industrial city of Bitterfeld.



These men are Wilhelm Fiebelkorn, a schoolteacher who looks like a high strung, unhealthy, very intelligent American Indian; and Horst Sowards, a skilled electrical worker who looks like a genial, ham-fisted football tackle. Fiebelkorn and Sowards arrived a few days ago in the safe haven of West Berlin, after being condemned to death by the East German Communist regime. For Sowards, the worker, and Fiebelkorn, the intellectual, were the leaders of a revolt which actually seized and for a time exercised power in the city of Bitterfeld.

Sowards tells the first part of the story. Towards the beginning of June, when the Communist regime was announcing all sorts of "cessations for the population," the workers in the big Bitterfeld electro-magnetic combine learned that their "production norms" were to be increased. Already, Sowards and other workers' leaders had organized an elaborate cell system in their plant, precisely patterned on the Communist cell system in capitalist countries. The time had come, they decided, to risk everything. The order to strike was passed through the cells, and on the morning of June 10 the whole plant closed down.

Sowards and the others, expecting arrest, cannily refused to meet the Communist functionaries who came to the factory. Then on June 11, the Communist capitol completely and astonishingly. All the workers' demands were met, and the men went back to work.

For three days the workers quietly absorbed this evidence

of the regime's weakness. On June 15 they struck again, with increased demands, and again the factory closed down. Again, the regime failed to react with the expected violence. Then, on the evening of June 16, RIAS, the American radio station in Berlin, carried word of the construction workers' strike in East Berlin, and the word spread rapidly throughout Bitterfeld.

Until then, the strike had been confined to the electro-magnetic plant. Now every factory in the Bitterfeld area struck, and on the morning of June 17 the workers filled the streets of the city. Here the German instinct for order asserted itself. A mass meeting of workers elected Fiebelkorn, favorably known as a "militant intellectual," as chairman of the "Bitterfeld District Strike Committee." In a methodical manner, the committee set about organizing the city.

The Communist mayor was quietly evicted from his office. The workers took over the headquarters of the communist party, the secret police, and all public buildings. Eighty-six political prisoners were freed from the jail, while six criminals were firmly relocked in their cells. The workers took over the telegraph office, where Fiebelkorn drafted and dispatched two remarkable telegrams.

The first was addressed directly to the "so-called Democratic peoples' government in Berlin." It contained a list of eight curt demands, including free elections, the release of all political prisoners, the dissolution of the "so-called peoples' army," and the dissolution of the government itself.

The second was addressed to "the honorable Semyonov." This message to the Soviet proconsul was most polite: "We respectfully request that you will lift the siege in Berlin and proclaim your solidarity with the workers in the Eastern zone. We hope that you, sir, will act in accordance with our wishes, so that we can believe that you are the champion of peace, international understanding, and Democracy. With the greetings of the Strike Committee of Bitterfeld." Unlike the telegram to the government, this included space for a prepaid reply, as a further mark of respect.

The reply came, of course, in the form of Soviet troops and tanks. By early in the evening of June 17, all public buildings had been occupied, martial law had been declared, and Fiebelkorn and Sowards had been condemned to death as "criminal saboteurs." So ended Bitterfeld's great revolt.

But has it really ended? Asked how such things could happen in a supposedly monolithic police state, Fiebelkorn shrugs his shoulders and replies that it is as though "a lighted match were thrown on a haystack." The haystack he explains, is the universal hatred of the East German people for the puppet regime which has ground their lives into misery. The match is the weakness of the regime which the workers began to sense soon after Stalin's death, and which they sensed with certainty with the sudden adoption of the policy of "assassination for the populace." The haystack and the match—hatred and contempt—are still present.

What happened in Bitterfeld, happened in almost exactly the same way in more than 75 other German cities (though Fiebelkorn's telegrams were unique). As this is written, moreover, it looks as though the haystack were again beginning to smolder. Seventy thousand workers in East Berlin have proclaimed a sit-down strike, and the movement is beginning to spread to the Soviet zone. "We know now that they can't kill all of us," Sowards says.

It would be very wrong to imagine, as some officials in Washington like to do, that few blasts on the propaganda trumpets will now bring the whole Soviet empire crumbling down. The Soviet tanks which crushed the Bitterfeld revolt are still very much present. It would be equally wrong to imagine, as other officials are able to do, that what has happened here is an interesting but not very important phenomenon. It might well be, instead, a great turning point in world affairs.

(Stewart Alsop is in Europe and will report directly from Berlin, Bonn, London, Paris and other cities during the next six weeks.)

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"No... you can't have an increase in your allowance just because you have more time during summer vacation to spend it..."

Inside TV ...

We've No Worries Regarding TV Color

HOLLYWOOD—The mailbag grows bigger by the day with repeated queries from readers about what to do with their black and white sets when color TV "comes of age" within the next 18 to 24 months.



There is no cause for alarm. Color telecasts will be very limited, at first, probably confined to the New York area. When (years hence) they do go on the networks, the 25,000,000 ordinary sets now in use in this country will be able to receive the color signals—but in black and white.

The viewing public gains everything and loses nothing. It will see color programs, without the color, in addition to the regular telecasts, and when "mass production of color sets enables the average viewer to buy one, he can do so safely and economically by trading in his black and white receiver. There will always be a market for these; as there is for low-priced used autos.

The reception of color telecasts on black and white sets won't result in an inferior picture, according to network officials. They say, too, that the first color sets, with 14-inch tubes, will sell for \$800 to \$1000, but prices will drop once mass production is achieved.

WHAT'S NEW: Syndication in TV. What is it? Simply this: Instead of a show being sold to a network or owned by a network, the producers sell it to any agency or syndicate who in turn sell and distribute the property to individual stations around the country for a flat fee.

One small distributor sells half-hour video films for \$15 to \$20. Ziv, United Television Programs, and Atlas Television Inc., three of the biggest syndicates, offer several shows in a package which enables stations in small markets to buy top half-hour filmed shows for \$40 to \$50 per episode.

Such shows usually make more money for the producers than if sold to a network. This is due to the rise in TV production costs during the past two years. TV films in particular have been hardest hit.

What syndicate shows are you most likely to see? "Boston Blackie," with Kent Taylor and Lois Collier, is one. "The Life of Riley," starring William Bendix, "Abbott and Costello" and "Man Against Crime" are all showing a neat profit, their producers admit.

Time Flies: From The Statesman Files

10 Years Ago

July 11, 1943

Eleanor S. Stephens, state librarian, became a member of the executive board of the American Library Association.

Brigadier Claude Nicholson, Dunkerque hero, died in a German prison camp.

Halverson Construction company, Salem, was awarded two contracts to be supervised by army engineers at Portland, for \$50,000.

25 Years Ago

July 11, 1928

Sam Kozer resigned as secretary of state, effective September 1, to accept position as director of the Oregon state budget.

Two southern Oregon cities, Klamath Falls and Glendale, were hit by fires with an estimated loss of more than \$200,000. The small town of Glendale was all but wiped out.

At Miami, Fla., Elks in national convention voted to establish \$20,000,000 trust fund for charitable, educational, and benevolent enterprises.

40 Years Ago

July 11, 1913

King Ferdinand of Bulgaria asked for peace after the Bulgarian plan to drive a wedge between the Greeks and Serbs.

ans failed. Fifty thousand of his men were forced to surrender.

Supt. E. T. Moores of the blind school has returned after spending several days in Seattle attending sessions of charities and corrections convention.

The track of the Dallas-Falls City railroad on Union Street is being ballasted in preparation for paving.

Minister Molotov, Russia and the world wait to see if a duel now ensues between these two, for usually dictators brook no rivals.

Revolutions have a way of devouring their own children. Robespierre followed Danton to the guillotine. Now Beria follows the Old Bolsheviks into the discard. Suspicion remains that Stalin himself was a victim of a well-planned uprising.

Speculation will turn on the effect of this inner conflict on the Russian people and on the Soviet Union's relations with the rest of the world. The new bosses will move swiftly to consolidate their position and probably only the army could interpose a veto. Malenkov is set to employ the methods of Lenin and Stalin for those are all he knows. Fresh ruthlessness in the satellites might set off revolutionary outbreaks but they would hardly be successful unless the great Russian monolith starts cracking in its citadel.

It is not safe to assume that Russia will crack up now; and whoever emerges as top hand in Russia probably will not venture very far with peaceful overtures toward the West. The temptation will be to revert to isolationism, to suspicion of the rest of the world and to renewal of hate campaigns against the West. In short, while the struggle for power might lead to the collapse of the Soviet Union it seems safer to predict that it bodes no good either for the Russians or for the rest of the world, save as it reveals the conspiratorial character and power-hunger and cynical dishonesty of the rulers of the USSR.

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The Safety Valve

Book Burning—Who's to Blame To the Editor:

For the third time in three weeks the Statesman to-day comments editorially on the Book-burning business. And once more it carefully avoids any criticism of the exalted persons primarily responsible. I mean of course President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles whose repeated surrenders to Senator McCarthy in this and other matters continue to weaken U. S. leadership and prestige overseas.

In to-day's editorial the Statesman does not mention Dulles' name. It was discreetly likewise from your second effort to apply the whitewash. This referred to panic "somewhere down the line." Your first piece tried to blame everything on "agitated assistants" in the State Department.

To-day, indeed, reference is made to ten (10) directives on the book purge; all doubtless sent out from Washington in recent months. These Mr. Dulles must have known about. If he didn't he's guilty of gross negligence; if he did he can't escape full responsibility for the confused weakness displayed in the directives, or from what you call the explosive results.

Perhaps you do concede this to-day in a roundabout fashion; by admitting that "in this category the State Department hasn't lived up to the Eisenhower promise that our foreign policy would be clear, definite and dynamic." In what category, pray has it been any of these things? In Korea? I think not. But here as elsewhere the Statesman (like other Republican newspapers) has carefully refrained from criticism and comment. So far as our one-party press can do it, Eisenhower and all his subordinates civil, political and military seem to be wrapped in an impenetrable cloak of infallibility. Personally, not being an Ike-idolater or a Republican, I feel that the cloak is wearing a little threadbare.

R. I. Lovell

Editor's Note: True Eisenhower is President and Dulles is Secretary of State and as such are responsible for what happens in the State Department. We have no disposition to absolve them from this responsibility; but so involved is the government machine that it is not clear how much personal knowledge they had of the book business which apparently was under the Voice of America, Dr. Robert L. Johnson, director.

One correspondent reported that Eisenhower didn't know anything about the book purge until he overheard it discussed on the platform at Dartmouth College Commencement. That prompted his forthright comments which unfortunately he later qualified.

Fireplaces for Bush's Pasture Safety Valve To the Editor:

Under heading, "Fireplace Offers Leaves Club Holding the Bricks" in your issue of the 9th, I notice where the Park Advisory Board is in doubt as to just what the needs are going to be.

An expression from the public might possibly assist the Board in arriving to a prompt conclusion. The Salem 20-30 Club would no doubt be glad to have the Board come to a prompt conclusion as they very much prefer to donate these fireplaces to 20-30 Pasture.

I have watched Salem grow every since 1891 and in my opinion there will never be a great demand for a central kitchen as suggested by Mark Astrup, chairman of the Park Advisory Board. The central kitchen idea would be proper providing the City planned to cater to the tourist trade at the park. I do not understand that it is the plan of the City to cater to this class of people there, but more particularly to the local people. I understand that eventually the park will be fenced in eliminating auto travel through the park.

The offer of the Salem 20-30 club to build fireplaces in the park, in my estimation should be accepted.

Eugene F. Prescott 1064 Oak St.

Beria Victim Of Showdown In Red World

By WILLIAM L. RYAN Ap Foreign News Analyst

Sparks from the restless Soviet satellite nations apparently have touched off the Kremlin's powder-keg in an explosion that could rock the Communist world to its foundations.

The showdown for power seems to have burst prematurely—before the contestants were fully ready for it. At the moment Premier Georgi Malenkov appears to have won and Vice-Premier Lavrenti Beria to have lost.

Beria long czar of the vast network of Secret Police and the most dreaded man in the Communist empire seems on his way to becoming the chief scapegoat of all the ills economic and political afflicting the USSR itself and the captive nations in its orbit.

Beria for all his power in the Secret Police was boxed in by the subtle organization of the Soviet Communist Party which grips every phase of Soviet activity. The strength of the party at the present moment has outmatched hatred of the police network. But the battle may be far from ended.

Stalin drew his personal strength from the party but he ruled the party for many years with an iron fist. Malenkov is not the man Stalin was and may have a tough war on his hands to keep the power.

Not only will he face the anger of the defeated faction of the party and danger from the ranks of the police but he may yet have to deal with the Soviet Army's officer cadres who make up the unknown quantity in this historic struggle to decide upon the ruler of a third of the earth's surface.

Once again Soviet Communist history repeats itself. The purger is to be purged. Beria held the reins of the Secret Police for a long time—ever since 1939 but it has been always the most uncomfortable pinnacle of power in the USSR.

He himself directed the purge of his predecessor who in turn had the previous police chief to the firing squad in Stalin's blood purge of the 1930s.

Moscow's communique indicated that Beria himself would go on trial as a criminal who directed anti-state activities in the interests of the United States.

Nothing of course can be more fantastic but as a recent arrival from Moscow has commented nothing is too fantastic for the Soviet Union today.

The battle for power in the Kremlin might have smoldered for some time to come except for the events in Middle Europe. They appear to have hastened the showdown.

It became clear recently when diplomats were called home to Moscow from key posts abroad along with the military and civilian authorities from Germany that something important was bubbling in the Kremlin pot and that it might boil over at any moment.

The Communist Party fearful that its power was on the wane throughout Europe and even indeed in the USSR itself had to strike swiftly.

Somebody had to be blamed for the ills which were forcing the party into a world retreat. Perhaps Beria and his allies eyed Malenkov for the honor but Malenkov once again proved the wildest and quickest in a showdown.

From now on unless a force stronger than Malenkov emerges in the confusion it will go hard with old line Stalinists such as Beria whose loyalty to the Soviet dictator has never been questioned.

Beria showed some strength for a while in the struggle. He had the strength to purge his enemies in Georgia his native state and elsewhere on the heels of the fantastic doctor's plot.

Many interpreted the reversal of the plot with the release of those previously accused of plotting the deaths of Soviet leaders as a victory for Beria. Perhaps it was. But against the tight organization of the party under Malenkov's leadership Beria's control of the police was too indirect to serve his purposes.

Unquestionably this is only the first act of the new Soviet drama. There will be more shocks and surprises as the story unfolds.

Girl Compares Oregon Scene To Norway's

By LILLIE L. MADSEN Farm Editor, The Statesman

The Willamette Valley isn't too different this time of the year from parts of Norway, Miss Karen Mellum, Oregon's first 1953 International Farm Youth exchangee, reports. Right now she is living on an Oregon farm, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Trindle, Jr., Gervais.

She lives near the Swedish border in her native country and there are trees and rivers, mountains and valleys very similar to this part of the country. She expects, she says, to find Eastern Oregon quite different when she visits there after leaving the valley, July 20.

Miss Mellum arrived in Oregon June 18, attending the final week of 4-H summer school activities at Oregon State College.

4-H Membership Surprising One surprise—and one difference—Miss Mellum said, in speaking of 4-H activities, was that town youth as well as rural youth take part in the 4-H activities in this country.

"In Norway," she said in her rather hesitating English, "only the rural boys and girls have 4-H activities." Miss Mellum said that the youngsters study both English and German in the Norwegian schools, adding that "Our English seems to sound somewhat different from yours here." Four-H activities have been carried on in Norway since 1947.

The pleasant little Norwegian teenager says she will be in Oregon until August 31 and after that will go to Illinois. She returns to her native country in December, in time, she hopes, "to be home for Christmas."

Guest at Pickens Home Wednesday night, Miss Mellum was a guest of the Powers Creek Livestock 4-H club meeting at the Pearl Pickens home.

Cal Monroe, state 4-H agent, says the IFYE program will bring nine other foreign youths to Oregon farms this summer. Those now scheduled are Lorna Johnson Black, a Scotland miss, who will be here from July 21 to September 27; Dirceu Monteiro, Brazil, July 13 to October 11; Ellen Larsson, Sweden, August 6 to Nov. 7; and Tetsuo Fukui, Japan; July 14 to August 31.

The other five exchanges will be announced later. Farm families who wish to have one of these young people, ranging in age from 18 to 28, should apply through their county agents.

Car Violations Increase Over First Half '52

Oregon motor vehicle drivers were convicted of 29,409 traffic violations during the first six months of 1952, Secretary of State Earl T. Newby announced here.

Convictions increased more than 5,000 over the same period last year. Part of the increase was attributed to better reporting by the courts, Newby said.

There were 1,591 suspensions of drivers licenses for driving while intoxicated which was an increase over the previous year. Thirty-two licenses were suspended because drivers were convicted traffic violators or accident repeaters.

Other suspensions included 242 for reckless driving, 77 for violation of the basic rule, 9 for speeding and 11 for failure to leave name and address at the scene of an accident.

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Watch for... HUNT-A-GIFT IN DOWNTOWN SALEM BEGINNING MON. JULY 13