

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"

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CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher

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## The One-Way Grid

It seems apparent to The Statesman, on the basis of nearly 4000 votes cast in this newspaper's public opinion poll, that the city's one-way grid system — with imperative improvements — is here to stay.

That conclusion most certainly is no reflection on the majority vote which favored abolition of the grid. Rather, it takes into consideration two known factors and one interpretation.

The known factors are: (1) the majority was much less than might have been anticipated when it is considered that in informal polls the opponents on any such question usually are more vocal, and (2) even many of the opponents indicated that with certain modifications and improvements they could see value in the change.

The interpretation, based partially on the comments of voters themselves, is that there is a great quiescent willingness to let the city proceed to see what it can do to untangle what admittedly was getting to be quite a traffic mess.

Therefore, this constitutes no disposition to say that the city has a mandate to expand its one-way grid. Rather, the results of the poll should be regarded as a permissive challenge for the city to keep on working toward the over-all ends sought — safer, smoother traffic within Salem. And the one-way grid seems to be the best basis from which to work.

The Statesman is quite sympathetic with those who indicated the grid had caused them personal inconvenience or economic loss, is confusing to infrequent visitors and perhaps should have awaited completion of the bypass highway. It is also aware that there is merit in the argument that one-way streets, in some instances, have become veritable race-tracks. But aside from the unfortunate personal frustrations, it is convinced that the grid, properly improved and under proper police surveillance, will prove of over-all value and service.

To critics of the poll itself, including The Statesman's afternoon contemporary, this newspaper has no apologies. It was designed to ascertain public opinion, not to sway public opinion, and to the nearly 4000 readers who responded this newspaper is grateful.

## Scientists Study Avalanches

The snow which is hailed with delight by children and winter sports enthusiasts is dreaded by those responsible for keeping lines of communication open: highways, railroads, telephone lines, and supplying electric service. Even the light snowfall here over the weekend brought plenty of troubles to maintenance crews. No matter how well equipped they may be to wrestle with snows a lot of arduous labor is required, with time always the essence for restoring or maintaining services.

Here we have little fear of avalanches, though recently we did read of the loss of over

a hundred lives from this cause, in villages in the Austrian Alps, and a year or two ago avalanches caused great loss of life and destruction of property in Switzerland. Nor has the Northwest been immune from such disaster. In 1910, 108 lives were lost when a snowslide caught a Great Northern train on the slopes of the Cascade Mts. between Wenatchee and Everett (which led to the construction of the longest rail tunnel in the world to escape a repetition of the calamity).

How to provide a measure of protection against avalanches is now the concern of scientists who are trying to learn the secrets of these vast snowslides, what causes them, how they form, and if possible how to predict and how to prevent them. The subject is discussed in the current issue of Scientific American. In general there are two kinds of avalanches: those with loose snow, and those with packed snow. The loose snow avalanche is one we are more familiar with, on a small scale. It starts from a point or a narrow sector and grows fanwise, spreading both in width and depth. If the loose snow is dry it is pulverized and forms a cloud of fine particles; if wet it hugs the ground and moves more slowly.

An avalanche of packed snow "is released suddenly as a great, cohesive slab of snow." It may start on a wide front, and when it does it seems as if the whole mountainside was slipping. It accelerates rapidly, and is rated the most dangerous of all types.

The common "triggers" setting off an avalanche are overloading and temperature. Others are shearing and vibration. U. S. observers have listed ten factors which contribute to the hazard of an avalanche, among them depth of the old snow cover and character of its surface, then the depth of a new fall of snow, its type and moisture content, rate of fall, wind action, temperature and settling of the fall.

There is no sure way of preventing snowslides though some efforts are made as blasting snow cornices on a ridge whose break-off after a build up might start a slab avalanche on the slope below. Always risk attends those who live at the foot of snow-covered mountains and those who work or play on its snowy slopes. As our fund of knowledge of avalanches grows it may be possible to provide a little more security for those who take these risks; but there always will remain the danger that snow fields which appear pure and innocent of ill intent may go on a rampage sweeping houses and man's work's to destruction and bringing death to many in their path.

## President's Veto Power

Those concerned with federal legislation must not overlook the veto power of the President. For example, in the case of farm legislation, if no new bill is passed the 1949 act setting up flexible price supports will become effective next year. If a bill is passed which the President disapproves of he may veto it, though Congress could pass it over his veto by a two-thirds vote.

Likewise on tariff legislation. The reciprocal trade agreements authority expires this year, which would revert in Congress exclusive power to modify tariff rates. However, the President has the right to veto tariff bills which he doesn't like.

Congress and the country must keep these facts in mind.

The House ways and means committee voted to reduce the tax on dividends on a graduated scale over the next few years. That will be rated as a "year-end extra."

## POLITICAL ANCIENT MARINERS



## Inside TV . . .

# Wyatt, Beal Save Third-Rate Drama

By EVD STARR

HOLLYWOOD—CRITIC'S CORNER: "To Love and to Cherish," a half-hour drama starring Jane Wyatt, John Beal and John Emery probably held viewers, even though the story was somewhat trite. Jane, as the wife, is trying to decide whether she loves her artist husband, John Beal, or wealthy interloper John Emery. She makes up her mind and goes off in a car with Emery, leaving a goodbye note for the deserted husband.



A convenient blowout gives the wife time to reminisce, in a series of flashbacks—and she decides she has made a horrible mistake. Returning to the house she tears up the note, not realizing her husband, Beal, has already read it. But the forgiving husband doesn't let on that he is aware of his wife's antics, and the play has a happy Hollywood ending. With a weaker cast, "To Love and to Cherish" would have been third rate fare, but people like Wyatt and Beal have always done a good job of making material seem better than it actually is.

CAPSULE CRITIQUE: "Ford Theatre" has dished up better fare than "The Fugitives." Barry Sullivan as a crime reporter must have felt ill at ease in a part far below the level of his histrionic ability. Beautiful Anita Louise, a welcome sight for viewers these days, was not used to best advantage in the small role of the wife. Main theme of the play concerned an escaped killer, who, because of Sullivan's efforts, had foiled justice and exchanged the electric chair for a life behind bars. To soothe his conscience, Sullivan aids in recapturing the escapee, for which he receives a cash bonus and a quieted conscience.

STARR DUST: Must catch Joan Bennett and Melinda Markey (mother and daughter) when they team up for a General Electric Theater vidpic, "Your's Only Young Once," in production Jan. 25. With these two beauties on the screen, we wonder which one gets Richard Carlson, the male lead. Another G. E. telefilm we're looking forward to viewing is one starring Miriam Hopkins and Faith Domergue called, "Beauty in the Desert," with Faith all set as the beauty. Both telepics will be directed by Frank Wisbar. . . . Columnist Bill Willard tells us of Al Bernie's Las Vegas Sands routine: "You arrive here," quips Al "and everyone says, 'Howdy, Stranger.' Welcome, Stranger." In no time at all you feel like a stranger. . . . A "big name" quipped when George Jessel introduced him on his TV "Come Back Story": "Come back? — where have I been?"

Fifteen-year-old Jimmy Boyd, who made a fortune peaking ("I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus") has been touring the country and is performing at the Casino Theatre in Montreal. . . . I still think Hollywood's tele-reducing expert Terry Hunt is living off the fat of the land. . . . Katherine Hepburn gets our nomination for the new "flattie" look the French have decreed for us — this new look may never make 3-D! . . . Terry Moore and Susan Zanuck, fresh from the Johnny Grant entertainment junket in Korea, postcard from Hawaii: "Having a hula-va time! . . . We love the doggy version of Eartha Kitt's 'C'est Si Bon' — 'Save Zee Bone'!!!"

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## Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers  
CECILE, by Benjamin Constant, edited and annotated by Alfred Roulin, translated from French by Norman Cameron (New Directions; \$2.50)  
Lost for a century and a half, this short autobiographical novel recently found its way to Boulin, Lausanne librarian, was published in France, now makes its modest bow in English.  
In a translation that suits the sentimental mood, a mood reminiscent of Goethe's "Wether," this tells the curious story of Constant's love for Charliotta von Hardenberg, Cecile. Her fictional disguise, is married to an older man when the romantic Constant, the narrator, comes across her in the court of Brussels. Her husband has a mistress, his wife has a lover, so each is the answer to the other's hurt and need.  
At a discreet distance he is her suitor. But even after both are divorced, the objections of

## Time Flies

FROM STATESMAN FILES

### 10 Years Ago

Jan. 18, 1944

Democratic leaders presented a resolution to President Roosevelt favoring a fourth term nomination, but said they heard only a non-committal "Oh" in reply. (He later agreed).

Edgar L. Martin, 1912 graduate of Willamette University Law School, was appointed Portland deputy city attorney.

Ralph M. Eyre, who joined the R. L. Elstrom company in 1933, became part owner of the business and assistant manager, Elstrom announced.

### 25 Years Ago

Jan. 18, 1928

Col. Charles A. Lindbergh is the world's champion birdman for 1928, in the opinion of the International League of Aviators which awarded him the international trophy.

Avery Thompson and Benoit McCroskey of Salem are on an around-the-world trip, representing the University of Oregon as a debating team.

Students in agriculture at OSC joined with others of the institution in favoring the use of the designation "Oregon State College" in preference to the title Oregon Agriculture College, the name the institution has long been known.

### 40 Years Ago

Jan. 18, 1914

A Japanese radish twenty-eight and a half inches in circumference and weighing sixteen and a quarter pounds was brought to the Statesman office by F. S. Blumhart, of Mission Bottom.

The home talent show "The Band from Amsterdam," sponsored by the local Elks, played to a filled house. Mrs. Carlton Smith, Miss Ada Miller and Miss Grace Lilley sang the lead-

## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page 1)

probable that under the later doctrine of expanded powers the original legislation would have been called valid by the Supreme Court.

On this point let me quote from the brief of our State Department in opposing the Bricker amendment:

"One of the primary objects of our constitution is to permit the United States to speak as a sovereign state with one voice in foreign affairs. This proposal would destroy this; it would create a no-man's land in foreign relations not only a treaty consented to by the Senate but an act of Congress and legislation by each of the 48 states. Our nation would, thus, instead of speaking with a single voice in foreign affairs, speak with 48."  
It was to cure such a defect in the Articles of Confederation that the framers of the constitution vested authority to conduct foreign relations in the executive department, subject only to certain qualifications which require approval of the Senate. The Bricker amendment would so reverse the action of the constitutional convention as to threaten demoralization of our management of foreign affairs.  
President Eisenhower, who is not one to arrogate power to the executive department, spoke plainly when he said with reference to this amendment:

"I am unalterably opposed to any amendment which would change our traditional treaty-making power or which would hamper the President in his constitutional authority to conduct foreign affairs. Today probably as never before in our history it is essential that our country be able effectively to enter into agreements with other nations."  
And John Foster Dulles, secretary of state, says that adoption of the amendment would have "a calamitous effect upon the international position and prospects of the United States." These are more eminent and more trustworthy authorities than those backing the Bricker amendment.

One of the roots of the support for the amendment is fear that somehow something would be slipped over on the United States by United Nations. But U. N. can only adopt resolutions. They have no binding effect on nations unless the nations concur. Any U. N. treaty must first be agreed to by the executive department and then ratified by the Senate. If further legislation or appropriations are required, both houses of Congress must pass the bills necessary. Finally, there is still the Supreme Court which has authority to declare invalid any treaty which conflicts with our constitution.

To sum up: The Bricker amendment is a product of fear, without substantial basis in fact. It would overturn the structure of our government in an area of increasing vital importance, the conduct of foreign affairs. The constitution is now and will continue to be supreme over treaties and laws. The amendment should be defeated.

Many senators are looking for some substitute for the Bricker amendment or the limited Knowland text. Last week Senator Kefauver came up with a resolution, not an amendment, which puts the Senate on record with respect to the treaty-making power. It recognizes the right of the government to make treaties and states that the Senate can attach reservations when it ratifies a treaty (as it does now when it wants to); also, it spells out the supremacy of the constitution and the authority of the courts to pass on the validity of treaties.

Portland was added to the itinerary of steamers operated by the Kosmos line from this coast to Europe. The German steamship's Karnak arrived in the Columbia River.

Rep. W. Sterling Cole (R-N.Y.), chairman of the atomic committee, said he has prodded the administration for quicker action on specific legislation to carry out the President's idea.

Cole said he had told administration officials that, unless they send a bill to Congress next week, he will introduce one of his own in order to get committee hearings underway as quickly as possible.

Competent sources say the keep-them-posted proposal lies at the heart of Eisenhower's new strategy of building up nuclear striking power so that ground forces can be reduced.

## Pope Approves 3 Miracles

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Three decrees approving miracles for the canonization of Pope Pius X, a French priest and an Italian nun were read Sunday in the presence of Pope Pius XII.

The reading of the decrees of the Congregation of Rites was another formal step in elevating Pius X to sainthood.

Pius X, who died in 1914, will be elevated to sainthood May 29 in an outdoor ceremony in St. Peter's Square.

Decrees approving miracles also were read this morning for Father Pierre Louis Maria Chanel, first Catholic Martyr of Oceania and Sister Maria Crocifissa di Rosa. They will be canonized June 13.

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## Malenkov's Trips Around Russia May Convince Him of Inadvisability of War

By TOM WHITNEY  
AP Foreign Staffer

The report from diplomats that Soviet Premier Georgi Malenkov has been making quiet journeys about the U. S. S. R. is an encouraging piece of news.

The more Malenkov sees of the state of affairs outside Moscow the less inclined he will be to launch the Soviet Union into foreign military adventures.

Even a convinced Communist Russian can not travel in Russia today without being impressed with the tremendous task the Soviet Union faces to create decent housing and living conditions and a modicum of cultural and commercial facilities.

There is nothing like travel in Russia to make one aware of the weaknesses of the country.

One of the most dangerous features of Joseph Stalin's regime was its extreme isolation from the people and from Russian reality. Stalin lived part of the time in his apartment in the Kremlin surrounded by thick brick walls and an army of security guards. When he went to work he walked a block or so, still inside the Kremlin, to his office.

He sometimes lived at his country place west of Moscow. His trips back and forth were made by limousine escorted by carloads of security guards which ripped through Moscow's streets while police held up other traffic.

Aside from such journeys and Stalin's equally heavily guarded trips to his summer home at Sochi on the Black Sea, he almost never came outside the Kremlin or other official premises.

He never visited his provincial officials to see them and their problems and their people on the spot.

As he grew older he saw fewer and fewer persons in his office. More and more of his business was conducted through his secretariat and over the telephone.

He forced his subordinates, including Malenkov, to ape his ways. At their desks sometimes for 14 hours a day, these men had little opportunity to see or know Russia. Nor were they likely to hear

## GRIN AND BEAR IT



"What an opportunity! . . . this baby is loaded with extras and you can make me take off every last one of them . . ."



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