

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"

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## Self-Defense for Asia

With respect to frequent alarms over the spread of Communism into southern Asia The Statesman has held the view that there is little that the West and particularly the United States can do about it. We cannot directly intervene in their affairs, and even indirect intervention would be resented. The newly independent states of India, Burma, Indonesia, Ceylon are jealous of their rights, and suspicious of moves from the western powers who still are classed as "imperialist" and domineering.

It is therefore rather heartening to see a growing awareness among Asian leaders of the Red menace. For example, the premier of Ceylon, Sir John Kotelawala, speaking in India's parliament house in New Delhi to an audience which included Prime Minister Nehru, urged Asians to unite against "the ugly form of Communism lying on our doorstep." He declared that Communism is "entirely foreign to the religious, cultural and social traditions of our people." The Ceylon premier is proposing a meeting of the prime ministers of five south Asian states—India, Burma, Indonesia, Pakistan and Ceylon—to be held next spring to discuss their common problems.

What we of the West fail to recognize is that these countries are so swamped with domestic problems that they can give little attention to Communism, even though it has reared its ugly head within their own confines. Communism certainly is alien to the traditions of these peoples but when they are depressed and distressed they may, as in China, forsake the traditions of centuries to adopt a revolutionary doctrine as an escape from existing ills. It is therefore a good sign to see leaders of Asia rise to their own responsibilities and seek both to protect themselves from alien penetration and to solve the problems which weigh on them so heavily.

Thomas B. Stanley, the new governor of Virginia, reversed his position on an increase in the gas tax in his inaugural address. He called for a one-cent increase, admitting his campaign attitude had been in opposition, but explaining that he changed his views after studying the state's highway needs. A great many officeholders reverse their fields after elections, but few are as frank as Stanley. Usually the shift comes later and more deviously.

If Mill City doesn't keep a sharp eye out, some college will come along and lift its entire basketball team.

## Fake 'Security Firings' Termed Worst Lemon Yet Foisted on Ike Administration

By JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON — Since he returned from France to seek the Presidency, Dwight D. Eisenhower has been sold a good many lemons in the name of "smart politics." But about the worst lemon he has been sold yet is the strategy worked out by certain of the Administration's amateur Machiavellis, for dealing with the "Communist issue."

As an example of this strategy in action, take the Administration's repeated boasts about the 1,456 — now 2,200 — people who have been fired from the government as "security risks." The privately admitted purpose of these "security firings" has been to "grab the Commie issue away from Joe McCarthy."

The idea has been to undercut McCarthy by broadcasting the notion that the new Administration found the government crawling with subversives; promptly fired the lot; and thus left McCarthy with nothing further to do but twiddle his thumbs. The story of the State Department's security firings demonstrates how this was to be accomplished.

A grand total of 306 State Department security firings have been announced. According to reliable report, this impressive—even frightening—total was arrived at in the following manner: In the first place, the word was passed down through Assistant Secretary Scott McLeod's Security and Personnel Offices that what was wanted was the largest possible total of such firings.

Two techniques — both pallidly dishonest — were therefore used to swell the total. The files of those State Department employees who were in the process of resigning — always a considerable number since there is a constant turnover — were carefully scrutinized. In the raw files of any government worker who is not a zombie, there is pretty sure to be some morsel of gossip which can be labeled "derogatory information." Wherever the raw files provided the slightest excuse for so doing, the names of those who were resigning anyway were added — without their knowledge — to the grand total of State Department security firings.

About half the State Department total was arrived at in this way. If the same proportion holds throughout the government, there must be more than a thousand government workers who have resigned with a clear conscience and what they thought to be a clear record, and who were nevertheless listed officially as having been fired as security risks. The second technique was just as dishonest. Large numbers of people were being transferred from the administrative control of the State Department to Harold Stassen's Foreign Aid outfit and to the newly independent Information Agency. Many of these people were transferred "with the warning flag up" and then listed as State Department security firings — although the great majority were cleared on further investigation, and never fired at all.

In the vast majority of these cases there was no question whatsoever of disloyalty or pro-Communism. In about 19 out of 20 cases, the reason, if any, for the firing was heavy drinking, temperamental unsuitability, or the like. Where there was some pro-Communist charge, it was often on the order of the charge against one female government worker, who was accused of "sympathetic association" with her husband. This woman appealed the charge, and on further investigation her husband turned out to be a rather mousy fellow, who had never taken an interest in politics.

## Faint Glow in the Sky

It would be a misnomer to call the Russian attitude pacifist, or the United States' attitude aggressive, but recent straws in the wind surely seem to show that the big blow from Moscow, at the immediate time, has lost some force and effectiveness.

On the one hand, the release of nearly 22,000 Red-renouncing prisoners has been proceeding with surprising smoothness and with a surprising lack of acrimony in the Red press. The best the North Korean radio has been able to do is insist the action of India in freeing war prisoners "destroys" the armistice. Mild words for the Reds.

On the other hand, Secretary Dulles has seized the initiative, to blunt whatever obstructionist harangue the Reds might build up in Berlin, by declaring the conference will be futile if the Russians merely try to divide and frighten the West.

It would appear the Free World has come a long way in military confidence and diplomatic force and sagacity in the past year. Envoy Dean walks out of the Korean truce talks when the Reds get obstreperous, and he doesn't come back. India releases one-time Red soldiers by the thousands and the furore, for the Reds, is almost a calm. Dulles tells the world the Reds can mean business at the conference table or there's no use meeting at all.

Something is happening in the sphere of influence, and from this side of the table there seems to be a faint glow in the sky.

## Eugene Won't Buy Parking

Public interest in and opinions on traffic problems is at a high pitch in many a city, not just Salem. Now comes Eugene with the biggest turnout of voters in any special election in the city's history—to defeat a move for municipal acquisition of parking lots 4.479 to 707.

Both the size of the total vote and the overwhelming defeat of the plan comprise a considerable surprise, perhaps, although the net result was just about as expected. Parking meters themselves still haven't completely "sold" themselves in many areas, and many a voter isn't about to burden himself with more taxes in order to finance more parking. It is entirely plausible to suppose a similar result would greet such an effort in Salem, if one were made. Here, of course, a project like that never has been beyond the discussion stage.

The Eugene vote is simply a mandate for the city to work out its own downtown parking-traffic problem without the proposed \$750,000 expense to the taxpayer. And Eugene, with its narrow main streets, has an even bigger problem than Salem, which also is fortunate in having had a considerable development in private parking in recent years. It will be interesting to see what our contemporary city does now.

Major General Dean explains that his final pre-capture action of firing a revolver at a North Korean tank was "just plain rage and frustration." And why not? We don't think the general owed any explanation at all. Maybe it didn't do any more good, but it must have been a better outlet than kicking the step on which you've just stubbed your toe.

## GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



Comrade agent in U. S. is sending sample of confession everyone there is required to sign. It is called "Income Tax Return" . . .

## 10 Years Ago

Jan. 21, 1944

General Thomas Rilea, well known Oregon veteran of both World Wars was made commander of the southwest Pacific Base.

Phil W. Barrett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Phil E. Barrett, formerly of Salem, was ordained a Presbyterian minister at the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Sacramento.

Penicillin, recently discovered infection-killing drug obtained from mold, is produced in Salem for "external use only." The mold is grown by Dr. Cecil R. Munk and Dr. Robert H. Tschudy, of Willamette University.

## 25 Years Ago

Jan. 21, 1928

The greeting and good wishes of the people of the Irish Free State were conveyed to President Coolidge by the president of the free state executive council, William T. Cosgrave, who is on a world tour.

Salem achieved a big share of publicity at the Indianapolis meeting of the American Legion national committee by virtue of having led the nation in Legion membership for cities of its size.

James Garner and Harry Brown, two clam diggers at Astoria, were \$8,000 richer when they found a substance weighing between 4 and 5 pounds. It was the scarce ambergris, valued in the manufacture of perfume.

## 40 Years Ago

Jan. 21, 1914

Guarded by American cavalrymen, 3300 Mexican Federal soldiers and 1300 women and children camp followers were forced to seek asylum during Ojenga battle, and were entered at Fort Bliss.

The first football banquet, to become an annual affair in the future, was held at Chemawa. The banquet was inaugurated through the efforts of

## Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

THE SHOCKING HISTORY OF ADVERTISING! by E. S. Turner (Dutton; \$4.50)

Advertising, though it began ages ago, is considered in this vastly entertaining book from the 17th Century on. The British author stresses Britain first, then America.

At one time or another, anything and everything have been advertised: Pills against plague; a dentifrice that scours, cleans, averts toothache, holds teeth in; tobacco to cure insanity; a "List of Convent Garden Ladies" in London, and in New York, personals that amounted to the addresses of houses of assignation.

For mediums there have been the cliffs of Dover and the Pyramids; "sandwich men," in Dickens' phrase, newspapers, magazines, billboards, radio and television—Turner thinks "endorses" reaches the final hypocrisies when radio and television performers break off to praise the product which pays their high salaries.

On the credit side he notes advertising's role in introducing new inventions and raising living standards; he recalls the early stand of some publications against fraudulent claims.

On the whole, however, he pokes wry fun at the "colossal, terrific, titanic, stupendous" pretensions, to quote Hollywood, of some commercial products. So to a Hollywood press agent his book no doubt would be "colossal, terrific, titanic, stupendous." I'd agree, in these terms: it's witty, penetrating, thoughtful, worthwhile.

## Comes the Dawn

Members of the state forestry dept. are up a tree (Douglas fir of course) over a move by some wooden-headed federal foresters back in Washington, D.C., to change the name of the Douglas fir to Menzies fir . . . Forester Homer Lyon, who is all knotted up over the matter, says, "It's been known as Douglas fir for 150 years. I've called it that since I was a seedling. And it's too late to change." Besides, the 1939 Oregon legislature officially blazed the Douglas fir as Oregon's state tree. Would it take a special meeting of the legislature to change it? . . .



The trouble all started recently when a nosy botanist checked the record and found that David Douglas was not the first man to see and record the tree with a scientific body. Seems another Scottish botanist, one Archibald Menzies, who was wandering around the Northwest seeking relief, probably, from those one-way streets in Glasgow, saw the tree on Vancouver Island in 1792 and wrote up an account which was recorded in 1804 . . . Douglas spotted the same tree around 1823 and recorded it. And for years the tree was chalked up for Douglas and named after him . . . But because of the recent record check the U.S. Forest Service handbook for 1953-54 has changed the scientific name from pseudotsuga taxifolia to pseudotsuga menziesii—thus wounding deeply all the local foresters . . .

One of the reasons they don't like to see Douglas thrown over is that he acquainted the outside world with the Oregon country's flora. "All by himself," says Lyon, "Douglas tramped over all this country, mostly where the hands of the white man had never before set foot, collecting plant specimens. He even carried back Douglas fir seeds with him and planted the first of those trees in England. We've had Douglas all these years and we should stick with him. After all, sap is thicker than a botanist's dry records."

Usually when sailors return from the Orient they bring home things like cameras, scarves, fishing poles and tell tales as souvenirs . . . But Lt. Comdr. Walter Skinner, the new CO at the Naval Reserve Training Center, didn't fool around with run-of-the-mill stuff when he returned home from Yokohama, Japan, aboard a Navy ship. He brought back with him a 22-foot cabin cruiser—not in pieces either. Big question: How did he ever get it in his duffelbag? . . . Among speech titles at the Oregon Photographers Association convention this weekend are, naturally, "Accenting the Negative," and "Developing Good Will" . . .

This happened at Shryocks, men's store in the Capitol Shopping Center the other day . . . A store employe was making up the display window for a rags to riches promotion deal. Part of the display was to show an old torn, beat-up overcoat. Anyway, while the display man was working, a clothing salesman wandered in. He didn't know about the purpose of the display. And so he nearly fainted in his plaid when he saw the display man calmly take up a razor blade and viciously attack one of the coated dummies, cutting the coat to shreds . . .

## Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "After he had his leg broken, he spent the balance of the month in bed."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "machete"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Perfunctory, perpicience, percieve, perennial.
4. What does the word "composure" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with obs that means "the persistent influence of an idea"?

## Farm Loan Meet Feb. 20

J. J. Sechrist, secretary-treasurer of the Willamette National Farm Loan Association has announced that the annual meeting of the local association is to be held Saturday, Feb. 20, in Marion Hotel.

Sechrist has also announced that 537 farmers and stockmen in Marion, Polk and Yamhill counties will share in a \$7,458 dividend declared by the Willamette National Farm Loan Association for the year. This dividend is the Willamette association's share of a \$285,300 dividend declared by the Federal Land Bank of Seattle, Sechrist said. The bank's capital stock is owned by this and 64 similar national farm loan associations in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Approximately 17,000 farmers and ranchers will share in this year's dividend.

The Hereford breed of beef cattle was first introduced into America in 1817.

## Big 4 Meeting Recalls Thesis Of Joe Stalin

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.

Associated Press News Analyst

Secretary Dulles says that if the Russians show any signs of being "constructive" at Berlin they will find the Allies "responsive." However, even in the unlikely case that Molotov should come up with something that looks like a gift horse, the Allies will not accept before a thorough inspection of the mouth.

To know the value of an agreement with Russia, ask the Lithuanians, the Poles, the Latvians and the Estonians what happened to their non-aggression pacts. If you want to know what Molotov will probably have in mind when he gets to Berlin, take a look at the Communist line as outlined by Stalin and followed so assiduously by Malenkov in his peace offensive.

Stalin had already restated the Lenin premise that world revolution would be prepared through wars between the capitalist states, and that these should be fostered. Then he went on:

"We Communists create slogans for the masses. Treaties embodying fresh groupings of forces with an eye to war are termed 'peace treaties.' (Witness the Soviet-German 1939 non-aggression treaty.) The signing of them is always effected to the accompaniment of the pipings of 'peaceful alliances.' Our preparations for war are conducted under cover of plans to peace. The opposition will not accept our proposals; that shows how 'genuine' is their love of peace." (The single quotes are Stalin's.)

Stalin also said: "We may consider that the time is ripe for the decisive struggle when all the class forces arrayed against us are in confusion . . . It is inconceivable, as Lenin has written, that the Soviet Republic should continue to exist side by side with capitalist states. Ultimately one or the other must conquer. A conflict is inevitable."

(That's the conflict Stalin and Lenin said would come when the rulers of other nations would find themselves in confused crisis and so be weakened to the point of quick overthrow by the revolutionaries. Situations approaching this have occurred in both France and Italy since the war.)

What, at such a time, is Russia's role? "The main force of the revolution must, at the decisive moment, be concentrated for an attack on the enemy's most vulnerable spot. . . . A terrible clash . . . must occur. . . . We must . . . seize a moment when the enemy forces are dispersed."

Stalin cited the peace of Brest-Litovsk, which took Russia out of World War I after the revolution, as the type of settlement which fostered Communism. That made it possible to attack the White Russians and secure the revolution, he said.

"Always we have a clear and precise aim toward which we strive," said Stalin, "for one of the great merits of Communism is that nothing is left to chance." And he raised Molotov.

CHICKEN IS DANGEROUS CHILLICOTHE, Mo. (AP)—Apostol Hermanson was driving about 85 miles an hour when the chicken flew up and hit the grillwork of his car. It struck the hood latch and the hood flew up, blocking Hermanson's vision. He got the car stopped safely but the hood was badly damaged. The chicken was killed.

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