

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
From First Statesman, March 23, 1851  
CHARLES A SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher  
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## Competition Back on the Rails

The railroads which resisted competition from trucks by fighting changes in laws or regulations to permit bigger trucks to operate are shifting their attack to where it really hurts: freight rates. In this area the cutting of rates is most marked in the case of petroleum products where slashes have occurred to get the haul back on rails from the highways. In other parts of the country the railroads cut sharply the rates for transporting steel. This had formerly been a rail "exclusive" but of late years much of the business had gone to "rubber." Freight rate cuts have ranged from a few percentage points to 40 per cent, and apply to a long list of goods "from aluminum to whiskey."

In spite of these rate cuts the volume of business moving by rail has decreased and earnings are away down. This is attributed to the business recession which has been felt in heavy industry: steel, ore, coal, motor vehicles. As volume declines the competition for business becomes keener. The trucks will devise their own way of meeting the rail rate cuts, or they will be forced out of business.

Thus the horizontal rate increases of recent years become perforated with specific rate cuts as rival transportation agencies compete for business. This will edge down freight costs which are a big factor in all business operations. However, there is a limit to rate cutting. It is not in the national interest to starve our railroads or to freeze out the truckers; and with wages and other costs what they are, including taxes, the slashes in rates can't become very extensive for either rails or trucks.

Journalism lost one of its veteran and respected practitioners in the death of Richard Burns Swenson at Monmouth. He was in the newspaper business for nearly four decades, most recently as publisher of the Monmouth Herald, and at one time headed this state's association of newspapermen. As chronicler of Monmouth news for many years, Swenson held a wide circle of friends in this area. His work in the organizations in which he was active until recently also was missed. In a long life span, he served well.

Washington correspondent Robert Smith writes that Secretary McKay is itching to get into the senatorial scrap next fall, especially if his bete noir, Wayne Morse campaigns for Dick Neuberger. We may expect plenty of fur to fly as the above three are redoubtable campaigners. Senator Cordon, up for reelection, has never done much campaigning; and if McKay, Morse and Neuberger get to trading punches Cordon may become the forgotten man of the campaign.

This is one business reversal which the financial community refuses to take stock in. For instance the president of the J. C. Penney Co. told stockholders the company would undertake the largest new store expansion program in more than 20 years, opening retail outlets in 30 communities not previously served by Penney stores. Thus it proves its faith by its works.

## Administration Leaders Confuse Rather Than Clarify U. S. Course on Indochina

By J. M. ROBERTS JR., AP News Analyst  
Repeated statements by administration leaders have served to confuse rather than clarify America's intended course with regard to Indochina.  
This is always true when important matters are approached on the basis of hypothetical questions. Will the French get beaten? Will they pull out? How far do we go if they do? Can the war be won except by direct co-operation between the United States and independent Indochinese states instead of with the French? Can it be won at all when so many of the people most directly affected don't seem to care?

Secretary Wilson says it is proper to reduce the number of American troops in Korea where there is no active war now although it remains a danger point, because if war is renewed there it will be fought in a new manner, not slugged out man to man.  
At the same time he refers to 20 South Korean divisions available. Does that mean that new weapons will be so heavily relied upon that Koreans would be expected to do most of the job? If so, does that apply to Indochina?  
The number of hypothetical questions seems to be largely responsible for the confusion of statements by government officials regarding the possibility of sending American troops to Indochina. Word usages play their part. The United States "may" have to do something like that, but doesn't "plan" it. But Southeast Asia, they say, is so important that it cannot and will not be permitted to fall into Communist hands.

That puts all of the arguments on the basis of what day, time and circumstances the individual is talking about.  
If defense of Southeast Asia is so important, then the day could come when every American resource, including manpower, would have to be tapped.

## 'Long Road' Through Indochina

When Vice President Nixon spoke to the editors last week he prefaced his remarks by saying that he was neither a policy-making official nor one to execute policy. His disclaimer, however, even when supplemented by identifying his view on intervention in Indochina as personal, did not reduce his comment to idle chatter. For no one has questioned Nixon's hearing; and he sits with the National Security Council where these matters are under intimate discussion.  
Fortunately no one pulled the trigger and we are still uninvolved militarily in Indochina. The editor of this paper in his personal column has been raising questions which go to the heart of our policy vis-a-vis Indochina. We are interested, therefore, in a similar line of questions which the Wall Street Journal raises on this matter. After noting the arguments which seem to impel us to intervention in the event of French-Vietnam collapse, the Journal admonishes: "For make no mistake about it, the road through Indochina will be a long road for the United States also." It goes on to say:

We will once more be fighting Communist expansion in a place where we, the strength of the western world, will be wasting ourselves while Russia, the strength of the Communist world, will be risking nothing. In frank cynicism, why should not the Russians fight to the last Chinaman?

And we will be fighting there in greater hazard than in Korea. Not only is the battlefield more remote; we will be fighting with less support, and perhaps none, from our allies. Mr. Nixon made his remark about U.S. soldiers in Indo-China in response to a question about what would we do if the French quit. He envisioned not a coalition war but a war in which the U.S. fought alone.

Few will question our obligation to aid the French and native Indo-Chinese forces; we are already doing so. But what position will we be in if the French won't fight and the Indo-Chinese themselves won't fight in their own land but we will try to do it all? Are we to set ourselves up alone to save Asia from the Asians?

These are not the only questions which do not easily go away. Can we embark single-handedly in a war in Indo-China and hope again to stop short of the third world war? We have already recognized and said what a new outbreak in Korea would lead us to; can we, with any hope, see a different end to a total involvement in Indo-China?

These are grave questions which deserve consideration along with the possible "falling of dominoes" which President Eisenhower envisions if Indochina falls to the Reds. All the more urgent then that means be explored for averting both disasters. The Geneva conference offers an opportunity, but whether our late moves will achieve good results is by no means clear.

The whole non-Communist world will applaud the release of Mrs. Vladimir Petrov from the hands of the Russian strongarms who were dragging her out of Australia against her will. Her love for her husband who claimed asylum there after service in the Soviet embassy proved stronger than her love for Russia. When she put on a display of resistance to forcible evacuation Australian police interfered and respected her voluntary choice to remain in Australia with her husband. Now we shall see what revelations the Petrovs make as to the Communist espionage activities "down under."

In his Easter message Pope Pius appealed for a prohibition on use of atomic weapons. Soviet Russia has been calling for the outlawing of A-bombs. According to the McCarthy type of reasoning this would make the Pope a Communist or at least a fellow-traveler. The Pope did make an exception where such bombs are used in self-defense; and the people who are the ones exposed to risk hope they will never be used for any military purpose.

In the Northwest at least the flying saucers have shrunk to pellet size.

intention of getting out of Indochina. They will not even promise, for the purpose of getting greater cooperation from the Indochinese people, to let the three states leave the French Union, if they wish affect the war.

The basic question, then, is whether the French and native forces can themselves maintain a successful military defense of Southeast Asia in Indochina with the aid of American munitions alone. Only when the answer to that question is apparent can other nations really decide what they are called upon to do.

Eighty-five years after statehood was granted Oregon, its state flag is to take its place in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, along with the flags of 44 other states.

Marine Major Marion E. Carl of Hubbard was awarded the air medal for his achievements in the Solomon Islands.

The new Fairmount Hill home being erected for Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Johnson will be ready for occupancy in September. (The home is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Elstrom.)

Anglo-American friendship is generally deemed to have made a giant stride forward as a result of American offers for the settlement of world naval problems.

Mrs. Mildred R. Brooks, county recorder, received word that her son, Russell M. Brooks of Belfast, Ireland, will be leaving here May 1 for the United States and would be in Salem June 1.

When Capt. Max Gelhar of

## GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"Grandmother, grandfather, uncles, aunts, parents! . . . brace yourself. Gus . . . here comes another first haircut."

## Comes the Dawn

Oh, those crazy, mixed-up tree namers! . . . We mentioned here recently how the U. S. Forest Service or somebody high up the trunk in the tree-classification program renamed the well-known Douglas-fir (Pseudotsuga taxifolia) to Menzies-fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii) . . . Well, fir, this termite move literally tied up Northwest foresters in knots of rage. . . . Why, they cried, after all these years change the name of Douglas-fir? David Douglas, they say, popularized the tree, even the Archibald Menzies, another Scot botanist, actually discovered it.



And inasmuch as Douglas-fir has been officially named Oregon's state tree this means the state has a name without a tree. . . . Now, it seems, comes word that California also has its troubles with the famous Sequoia Gigantea. . . . In 1927 the US Forest Service check list called the Sequoia 'Washingtoniana'. Later, in 1930, it changed it to Sequoia 'wellingtonia'. The cries of rage from California foresters resounded through the smog. And botanists there took a poll and everybody said they preferred "gigantea," so now the check list again carries it as "gigantea." Why can't the same privilege be granted the Douglas-fir?

Another item which has fairly curdled the sap of Oregon foresters was the shady manner in which the forest service permitted the change of the name of Abies nobilis (noble fir to local laymen) to Abies procera. There, cry the foresters, the noble fir—the straightest stemmed tree of the forests—had no protectors and forever lost its appropriate name. . . . Anyway the forest industry and others stand with limbs unbowed and roots untapped in the matter of Douglas vs Menzies. In Portland recently a school was named David Douglas School. . . . On the other hand all this fir-needing of the botanists might eventually cause even more trouble for the historical name protectors—because the Douglas fir isn't really a fir at all. . . .

What's all this about ashes from heaven showering down on autos in various localities? Anybody who parks along Ferry street in Salem has often found his car covered with tiny particles of soot—only we always thought it all came from downtown building chimneys. If we had known this stuff really comes from Mars we'd have gotten off a hot letter to Eisenhower. . . .

If you sign your name with a fancy, practically illegible flourish you might consider the case of poor George Dilts, Salem coffee firm distributor. George attended the local Chamber of Commerce noon luncheon the other day. And when it came time to draw for the prize always given away at the meetings nobody at the head table could make out the signature. Finally after the scrawl was examined by no less than a supreme court justice, a university president and vice-president, the head of the state board of higher education and Bill Hammond, C of C prexy, it was decided that the name might be "Dillon." This, of course, led to the discovery that it was none other than George Dilts—who very nearly lost a two-pound box of candy. Candy isn't so bad to lose—but what if the prize had been something really valuable, like coffee?

## Time Flies:

From The Statesman Files

10 Years Ago  
April 21, 1944

Gov. Earl Warren of California selected as temporary chairman for the Republican Presidential Nominating Convention in Chicago.

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25 Years Ago  
April 21, 1929

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40 Years Ago  
April 21, 1914

When Capt. Max Gelhar of

the Salem National Guard asked the members of Company M, whether they were willing to go to the scene of action in Mexico, every man in uniform rose to his feet.

Holding that there is no greater problem before the American people than that of highway construction, Gov. Oswald West proclaimed April 25 Good Roads Day.

The selection of Mrs. Mary Inge as mistress of the Atherton Hunt caused a sensation in fox hunting circles in London and the old hard-riding fox hunters claimed no woman could keep the hunt in proper control.

## Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "The lady, when ask-cupful of coffee."
  2. What is the correct pronunciation of "pantomime"?
  3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Accumulation, accompaniment, accession, accommodation.
  4. What does the word "poignant" mean?
  5. What is a word beginning with fru that means "realization"?
- Answers  
1. Say, "I have drunk three cupfuls of coffee?" 2. Last syllable is pronounced mime, not mine. 3. Accommodation. 4. Keen; piercingly effective. (Pronounce pain-yant). "The tragic actress played her scene with poignant effect." 5. Latent.

## The Safety Search for Pilot Fails

TOLEDO, Ore. (AP)—An extensive ground search in the Devil's Well area east of here Tuesday failed to turn up a trace of a missing Bakersfield, Calif., pilot.  
He is R. W. Hall, 54, who disappeared on a flight here April 12. The ground search was organized after a number of persons reported they had heard a plane pass over the area about the time Hall should have been there. Hall was en route from The Dalles, Ore., at the time his plane vanished.  
His stepson, James Weber of Bakersfield, is here to aid in the search.

Appreciates Academy Choir  
To the Editor: We had the pleasure of hearing your forty-voice choir from the Salem Christian Academy, under the fine leadership of John Eby. They are really outstanding. As remarkable as their music was, this wasn't the only thing which impressed all who listened to them. It was the spirit which you felt and knew was behind all they did. The fellowship, love and respect they had for each other and their leaders. The quietness of 40 boys and girls, and bear in mind they are between the ages of 14 through 18, while their president, Mr. Turnidge spoke.

Although they came all the way from Salem via bus, had charge of three different services after singing until almost 10 p.m. when we left Ashland we heard them in the bus singing "In My Heart There Rings a Melody."  
What a wonderful tribute to

## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page 1)

few intellects which are able to penetrate into the "unknown." After that penetration is made there are many who are able to exploit the "break-through" and carry on from there. Dr. Oppenheimer is one of the very few. Such men develop such a high degree of mental concentration and become so absorbed in their special fields of research that they remain blissfully ignorant of mundane affairs. Thus, said my friend, Dr. Einstein is a "soft touch" for every cause which comes along that sounds plausible, and he contributes or lends his name to a wide range of activities many of which are of leftist character. (This may be something of an occupational disease, for Dr. Linus Pauling of Cal Tech has been similarly gullible.)

As far as Dr. Oppenheimer is concerned, he lived the life of a science recluse, but broke the shell in the 1930s when Hitler was purging the Reich of Jews. Oppenheimer had plenty of associations with Communists, which he has freely admitted, but has held steadfastly to his declaration that he was never a Communist.

After the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki the scientists were disturbed over the lethal powers they had released, and when the H-bomb was up for consideration many of them argued against it, believing the A-bomb was sufficiently destructive. Even scientists have a sense of moral values.

What is of prime concern is not only the loyalty of Dr. Oppenheimer, which it seems to me has been pretty well proven through his service to his country, but the need to conserve "brains" such as his, in the country's service. Perhaps out of an excess of caution the authorities while clearing Oppenheimer from Communist affiliation or disloyalty may conclude just to drop him from connection with the country's nuclear research. The effect would be to ostracize him from others of his level and handicap him in his own research labors. Progress in this field comes not by the invention of a single individual but by the interchange of ideas of many individuals.

In erecting the "blank wall" between Dr. Oppenheimer and the government's store of atomic secrets we need to realize that the wall works two ways: it bars the government from access to the brains of Oppenheimer. Unless the evidence of disloyalty on his part is clear and conclusive he ought to be restored to service for his country. Otherwise in our zeal for security we may obtain sterility.

## GE Expansion to Cost \$175 Million

SCHENECTADY, N. Y. (AP)—The General Electric Co. will spend a record 175 million this year for plant expansion and equipment, President Ralph Cordiner said Tuesday.  
He told 3,000 stockholders at the company's annual meeting that GE's planned outlay was 24 per cent higher than the 141 million spent last year. The program will continue next year, he said.

the city of Salem and how proud you must be. After seeing what can be done, we are hoping we too can have a Christian High School in Southern Oregon like it.  
Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Brawn, 507 Kenwood Ave., Medford, Oregon

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## Your Health

By Dr. Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

New Hormone Offers Relief  
One of the dreaded diseases of childhood is nephrosis. This kidney affliction causes swelling of the body and brings great discomfort.

Nephrosis usually begins with swelling over the eyes. The child's weight may be doubled by the excess fluid. When the skin is pressed, there is an indentation mark for a few seconds due to the water-logging of the tissues.

Little urine is passed by these children and with what little is given off, there is a great loss of the protein substances that are so necessary to the body. This protein loss allows the serum to escape from the blood vessels into the tissues and thereby causes the swelling.

Most often this disease starts with an infection of the throat and is believed to be due to some form of allergy which affects the kidney. However, in a certain number of cases, no cause can be found. The disease may last for months and even years.  
In the treatment under the physician's direction, most of these cases are put to bed in a hospital and watched very carefully. Often, the antibiotics are helpful in treating this disease. The children affected are put on a diet low in salt or sodium and high in proteins.  
Recently, the new hormone ACTH was used on a group of these children. It was found that this treatment, although not altogether curative, did relieve the symptoms. The swelling was completely eliminated in sixty-eight per cent of a group of forty-five children having nephrosis. It began to disappear after the eighth to twelfth day of the treatment. All the symptoms, both subjective and objective, finally cleared up with this treatment, and it is now being used in many cases of nephrosis.

QUESTION AND ANSWER  
F. S.: My son recently cut himself. He now has an extremely large scar, what the doctor calls a keloid. What can help this?  
Answer: Usually a keloid can be helped by local radium or X-ray treatments.  
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