

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

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Coal for Electric Generation?

Dr. Louis A. Wood, professor emeritus of economics at the University of Oregon has published a brief summary of his views respecting fuel-fired electric generating plants in the Pacific Northwest. He notes the need for such plants to supplement the hydro generation, but reports that the existing steam plants in the region have an average age of 34 years, and an average generating cost of 8.21 mills per kwh as compared with 2.4 mills at one of the new plants built and operated by TVA. Fuels presently used here are wood waste and fuel oil whose cost factors have been growing adverse. Dr. Wood raises the question of whether the coal reserves at Coos Bay and in Washington state could be used to advantage. He says the answer to this question will require further investigation.

We think it doubtful if the coal-fired plants would be as economical as fuel oil, even at Coos Bay where tankers can deliver oil at low freight cost. The major question is, who will build steam plants? Dr. Wood favors BPA plants, but Congress has rejected that proposal; and private companies are reluctant to build because of the higher unit cost of energy. It looks as though local distributing agencies will have to build whatever steam plants are built, particularly since this Congress is unwilling even to start any new hydro plants in the Columbia basin.

Boone's Ferry and Boone Bridge

The Willamette Ferry has made its final crossing. The new highway bridge across the Willamette has been put into service. As the Oregon City Enterprise-Courier reports, this marks the end of an era—for the ferry had operated at this point for 107 years. It was called Boone's Ferry, and the old road from Portland to this point still bears the name of Boone's Ferry road. The name "Boone" suggests a relationship with the veteran hunter and explorer, Daniel Boone, as in truth there is.

Alphonso Boone, a grandson of Daniel, came to Oregon in 1846 by the Applegate (Southern Oregon) route. About 1847 he and his son Jesse V. Boone began operating a ferry across the Willamette at what is now Wilsonville. A daughter of Alphonso Boone, Chloe, married George L. Curry who became governor of Oregon, and for whom Curry county was named.

The last ferry boat was named Jesse V. Boone, and the new bridge is called very appropriately the Boone bridge. The ferry goes, but the name lives on.

The chap with the 90-foot flag pole and no way to get it home might get together with the neighbor who has a 90-foot dry well and no market for the hole.

A few months ago the Rio Grande river was dried up; now it is staging a record flood. The high water is catching many who survived the drought.

Unions as Employers

Labor unions can't run with the hares and hunt with the hounds. That's the gist of a ruling by the NLRB which ruled that an employer was not required to bargain with a union which was proprietor of a competing business. The case arose in St. Louis where a CIO union engaged in a wholesale optical business in order to provide jobs for some of its members. Thereupon Bausch & Lomb Optical Co. declined to bargain with the union, claiming it was no longer a bona fide labor organization but a business competitor. The employer position was sustained unanimously by the Board.

As labor unions embark on business ventures they are bound to lose character as organizations representing workers in bargaining on conditions of their employment. United Mine Workers is reported as owning control of banks in Washington which makes it an employer like a corporation or co-operative. As employer of labor a union learns first hand the business of meeting payrolls. The experience may be valuable; but a union can't, under the Labor Board ruling, function as bargaining agent and competitor at the same time,—which seems a just decision.

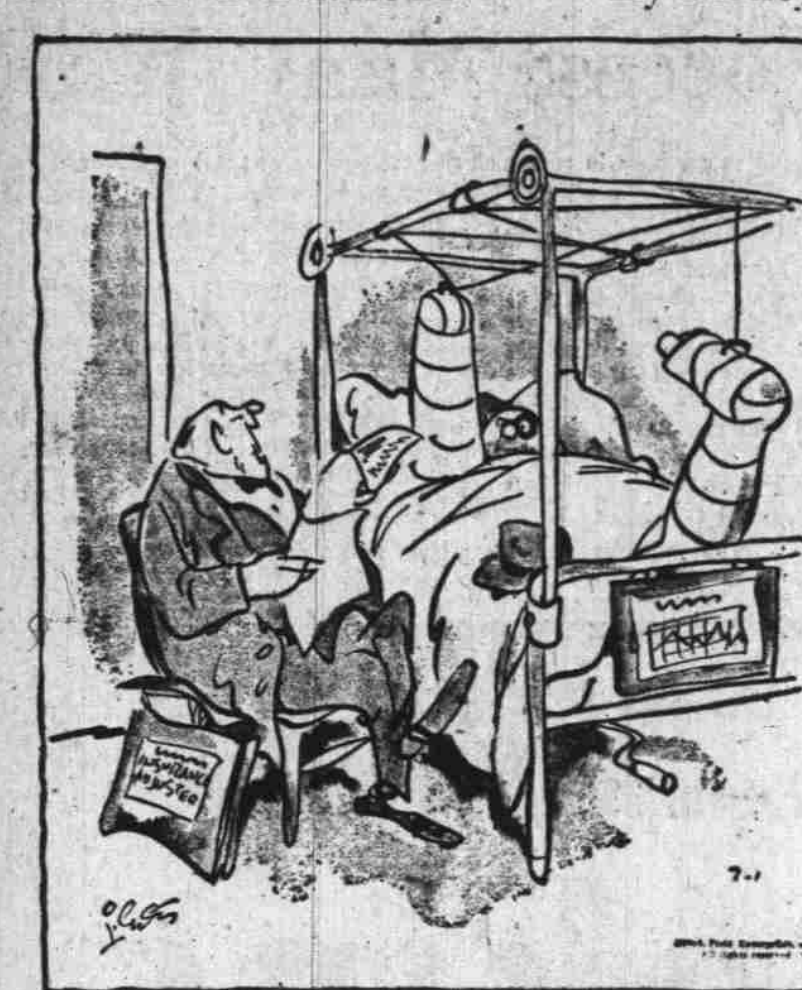
Adlai Stevenson keeps himself in the news by frequent appearances at fund-raising dinners for the Democratic organization. He is due for a Democratic clambake in Eugene on July 10th. At a dinner in Springfield, Ill. Stevenson got off some sharp jibes at Republicans. He proposed that his party adopt some 1952 GOP slogans like "time for a change," and the "mess in Washington." Well, he can pick up evidence, like the McCarthy hearings, to confirm his "mess" charge. On the other hand the administration has made progress in paring down administrative expenses, in making bureaus more efficient, and in rooting out graft—the FHA scandal of windfall profits was due in considerable degree to lax administration. The people trust Eisenhower — and would trust him more if he would trust his own judgment more.

Further utilization of Oregon's timber will be provided in a new product: paper-covered veneer which is being turned out at three plants in the state. The veneer is a thin sheet from white speck and honeycomb fir or from logs of secondary species and kraft paper is bonded to it by a resin, as in plywood. The product is used for box shuck and in containers for vegetables, reports the bulletin of the Forest Products Laboratory at OSC. The market possibilities appear to be very extensive. This is just a sample of what Oregon can do to develop its own resources and provide employment for labor and capital.

Sen. Cordon's publicity office has sent out a news release reporting the high tribute paid by the senior senator from Oregon to Sen. Margaret Chase Smith in congratulating her on her recent primary triumph in Maine. The news release identifies Mrs. Smith as the author of the famed "Declaration of Conscience" which "denounced the practice of some senators in using the Senate floor to make unsubstantiated charges." We think the congratulatory effort is greatly strained, for Sen. Cordon was NOT a subscriber to the Declaration of Conscience. Senator Morse WAS.

Colorado Springs is an excellent choice for the new Airforce academy. There is plenty of land around there, and the skies are usually clear and blue. Besides it's a good thing to locate a military institution like this in the western part of the USA.

GRIN AND BEAR IT



"Sorry, Mr. Fight! ... but in your group insurance plan EVERY member must have a broken left leg, injured right arm and a black eye ... all at the same time."

The Safety Valve

To the Editor:

I would like to suggest to the City Council that they change the downtown signal lights for pedestrians from WALK to RUN. That's what you have to do to get across before they flash WAIT at you again. Court and Liberty intersection is developing some real sprinters among our citizens.

William D. Galloway Jr.
1648 South Cottage St.
Salem, Oregon.

What for Beauty?

To the Editor:

I am interested in your answer to the letter of J. Merton in today's paper. If there are improvements in Bush's pasture I surely want to go there. Always the excuse has been "can we do it, there are vandals, etc. etc."

The little city of Newport has one of the finest picnic facilities I have ever enjoyed, also Silverton, but Salem is the BACK number of the Pacific Coast.

We hire a city manager who, I also have heard, orders good trees chopped down. We hire a gardener from the East Coast where surely vegetation and methods must be too different from ours. How can he succeed here? We hire an industrialist, but for what? We do not want the Smog of industry, so why the added expense?

And where are the flowers we brag about? No passer through would stop for the flowers as he can see none. I think that the West side has the finest garden homes, Candalaria is still a barren place.

What must we do to acquire some beauty for our little town? You did a fine job getting

Time Flies

FROM STATESMAN FILES

10 Years Ago

July 1, 1944

The team of Thos. E. Dewey and Herbert Brownell, Jr., went into action officially in an attempt to expand its feat of winning the New York governorship into a presidential victory.

Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, arrived in Salem on an intensive tour of national foundation chapters.

A gift of 28 bicycles arrived at the post office for the use of local carriers. The bicycles were manufactured for the Army. They will be the property of the post office.

25 Years Ago

July 1, 1929

King George, thin but bronzed, returned to his palace, signaling recovery from his long and dangerous illness.

George K. Aiken, editor of the Ontario Argus, was elected president of the Oregon State Editorial Association at its 22nd annual convention in Albany.

Blyth and Co., bond house, announced it had purchased the controlling interest in Hawley Pulp & Paper Company at Oregon City.

40 Years Ago

July 1, 1914

The United States Express Company withdrew from the transportation business in which it had been active for 60 years. American Express Company and Wells-Fargo & Co., took over the holdings.

Salem will have a chautauqua in 1915. A citizens' chautauqua committee formed a permanent organization. Dr. H. C. Epley was re-elected chairman, and Charles Knowland secretary.

Scattered through the Blue Mountains in Umatilla county, a dozen posers were searching for the bandits who held up west-bound passenger train. A reward of \$2500 was offered.

Withdrawal In Indochina Not 'Sellout'

By J. M. ROBERTS Jr.

Associated Press News Analyst

American observers in Indochina have been quick to interpret withdrawal of the French forces from a large area of Tonkin as the beginning of the end of France in Indochina.

Some are even calling it a run-out or a sellout.

Taken against the background of French plans as explained to me a few days ago, however, the development is neither surprising nor quite so final as it might seem.

The French realized, after the fall of Dien Bien Phu, two things:

1 — They could not take another defeat of that type.

2 — It was very doubtful that they could hold the entire Red River delta without outside help, meaning from the United States.

They wanted to hold it all. But they were unwilling to try, by sending heavy reinforcements from France, on the mere hope that an all-out effort would attract Allied aid should the going be too rough. They wanted action, not promises, and they weren't even getting the latter.

One highly placed Frenchman said: "After all, we aren't going to send to Indochina troops which could possibly be needed for the defense of Paris."

The new French government has demonstrated, however, that it does not intend to be left completely helpless in true negotiations by yielding the delta entirely. It is ordering up new draftees in France so that regular army units can be sent to reinforce Hanoi.

This is not a preparation for a runout.

It is, rather, an expression of determination to hold such a perimeter as may reasonably be expected to prove defensible with the forces available.

For three weeks it has been understood that this perimeter will not extend far into the interior beyond Hanoi. The fighting that has been going on recently has been largely a delaying action while this shortened perimeter, or enclave, could be prepared for an all-out defense.

The withdrawal from Nam Dinh province suggests that this new defense line has now progressed to the point where it can fight for

Willamette U. Survey Backs Fluoridation

Results of a survey conducted by a Willamette University sociology class show that a majority of persons questioned favors fluoridation of the city water supply, the Marion County Health Department revealed Wednesday.

The class, instructed by Arthur Gravatt, questioned 74 persons selected at random from eight precincts in Salem, according to Wade Patterson, health consultant for the department. Favoring the addition of fluoride to the water supply were 45 persons or 61 per cent while 19 per cent opposed and 20 per cent had no opinion, Patterson reported.

All but seven of the persons questioned thought a study of the fluoridation question should be undertaken by the city council and the same number favored a public ballot on the subject, the survey indicated.

Nearly half of those questioned have children under 16 years, Patterson said. When asked whether active part in any movement to they would be willing "to take an fluoride Salem's water supply," 62 persons answered no and 12 said yes, he concluded.

That they were able to retire within the new line without having to fight increases their chances for holding from here on out.

This change may not be a very great, but holding on is extremely important, and not merely a heroic gesture. The enclave might be pushed back very near the coast.

But if the French can stay in the delta for two more weeks, the monsoons will make it likely they can stay for more months, during which all sorts of things can happen in negotiations.

Physical separation of the two units in Salem is planned in the future, Vanderpool said. Sgt. I.C. John R. Gilley, Army recruiter, said an additional man probably will be assigned here to help him cover Marion and Polk Counties.

Firemen Help Cat Descend

A stray black cat was back on terra firma Wednesday thanks to the efforts of Chief Ellsworth Smith and Battalion Chief Percy Clark of the Salem Fire Department.

Smith and Clark went to a Superior street address in the vicinity of the City Reservoir after getting a call that the cat had been stranded in a tree for three days. Use of an extension ladder enabled the firemen to saw a limb and get the cat safely back down to earth.

Separation of Recruiting to Start Today

Official separation of Army and Air Force recruiting services will take place this morning but both services in Salem will continue to operate in room 205 of the post office building.

T-Sgt. William F. Vanderpool, Air Force recruiter here, explained the separation is designed to speed up the defense effort, particularly of the Air Force.

The two recruiting services have operated jointly since 1947 when the Air Force became an independent organization. He said quarters for Air Force recruiting now is Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio.

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Reappointment of Ralph Thom, Portland, as a member of the State Public Employees Retirement Board representing citizens, was announced by Gov. Paul L. Patterson Wednesday.

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Britain Declared Finally Awake to Its Total Peril from A-Bombs of Communist Russia

By JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON—Far from seeming ailing or aged, Sir Winston Churchill has displayed all the splendor of the greatest personality of this age during his days in Washington.

Furthermore, he and President Eisenhower have done good business together. They have re-forged the links between Britain and America, as they set out to do. Yet there is still a flaw in the forging that they have not overcome.

In brief, the British leaders have now waked up to Britain's total peril from Soviet attack with the absolute weapons.

It may seem strange that this British awareness of total peril should now be so important. After all, the peril has existed for some time. It has been known in theory since it began to exist but the truth is that the British leaders did not feel the peril in their bones until this winter. Their actions did not regard their peril as something real, practical and immediate.

A date can even be given, on exceedingly good authority, for the moment of the Prime Minister's own full awakening. On Feb. 17, Rep. Sterling Cole talked in Chicago to an ironically chosen audience—the annual convention of the National Sand and Gravel and Ready-

Mixed Concrete Association. But Cole got his most attentive hearing in London, at No. 10 Downing Street.

The Chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy described how our first hydrogen bomb "obliterated the test island 'at Eniwetok'; tore a 'cavity' in the floor of the ocean a full mile in diameter"; and did other horrible and specific things.

Precisely because Cole's facts were vivid and specific, they aroused the Prime Minister as he had never been aroused by all the secret and abstract studies available to him. Churchill has been quoting Cole's facts ever since, in a sort of grim litany. He referred to them at length during the White House talks, reiterating his other oft-repeated statement that the British Isles are "a bull's eye target" for Soviet attack.

Still more curiously, the episode of the Japanese fishing boat was what really convinced most of the other members of the British government. Like Churchill they had all the secret papers. But as in Churchill's case, the elaborate calculations of the secret papers had seemed to them remote and unreal. Then the fall-out from our second hydrogen test cruelly interrupted the voyage of the Fortunate Dragon. And that simple episode translated the calculations of the secret papers into human terms that any politician or planner could understand.

After that, the peril of Britain was truly real and truly immediate in the mind of every British policy-maker. And this harsh, belated awakening in turn controlled the British response to the challenge in Indochina.

All the reasons the British have given for their policy in the Indochina crisis—the importance of Asian rationalism, the need for Asian support, and

so on—are good reasons. But there is one other thing about their policy that the British have not said.

Warnings that the loss of Indochina would amount to a super-Munich in Asia, have come from almost every trusted British key official on the spot. Britain's own Asian experts have emphatically argued that the danger of an Asian Munich is much greater than the danger of offending Asian nationalism. All these warnings have been ignored in London, except for one detail. Reinforcements are being sent to Malaya to meet the increased Communist menace there, which only confirms the character of the warnings.

All the facts, in short, point the same way. The British policy-makers thought that a war to save Indochina would spread into a wider war. Hence they had to ask themselves, "Are we ready to risk the destruction of Britain for the sake of Indochina?" That single question was controlling and decisive. The answer was, "No." The British therefore set out to secure the surrender in Indochina that is now taking place.

It is tragic that the sense of total peril should produce this kind of result. But it is not blameworthy, because it is inevitable.

In 12 or 18 or 24 months, some other trifling episode can be expected to arouse the people and the policy-makers of this country to the peril of America. And we shall then react to our own total peril—for it will be total by then—in just about the same way that the British have reacted. We sleep now, as the British slept until this winter. And it will be a nightmare to awaken.

Such is the flaw in the Anglo-American partnership, in the Western alliance, and in the whole ruling conception of American foreign policy. (Copyright, 1954, New York Herald Tribune Inc.)



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