

## The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Has Spelling Improved?

The Statesman-KSLM Spelling Contest, now underway in its preliminary stages in 84 Willamette Valley schools, has brought plaudits both from educators and non-educators the last few days, and also inspired a query as to whether the previous four years of the contest had brought noticeable improvement.

Perhaps the best answer is found in the words which spelled down the runners-up in the initial contest, in 1951, and in the latest contest, in 1954. Here they are:

| 1951          | 1954         |
|---------------|--------------|
| synonym       | fastidious   |
| embarrassment | nasturtium   |
| sedative      | witticism    |
| profession    | reprensible  |
| significant   | octogenarian |
| architect     | susceptible  |
| academy       | propeller    |
| vinegar       | erroneous    |
| judicial      | kerosene     |
| lieutenant    | fuchsia      |
| assurance     | crystallize  |
| boundary      | acquaintance |
| constant      | diaphragm    |

It would seem, on the basis of these words, that considerably more expertise was developed in the four-year period. But actually, the contest was not designed to teach the spelling just of the more difficult words. In fact, it was not designed to teach anything. It was designed solely to be helpful in school spelling programs. Cooperative principals and teachers have accepted it on that basis—not as any interference whatever in their curriculum but as a stimulus for it. And the fact that last year's winner had to spell much more difficult words than did the winner four years ago is not half as important as the fact, if it is such, that more students have been encouraged to have a better groundwork in lots of words they will use frequently all their lives. That was the hope when the contest was started.

Incidentally, the impetus for the contest—now being widely copied in other areas—has almost been forgotten. It was this: In 1950, Dr. T. C. Holey of Ohio, consultant to the Oregon legislative interim committee on education, reported his survey showed Oregon school students were somewhat below the national average in spelling ability. That's what started things off. The contest was planned for only one year. Now it is in its fifth. What happens to it from now on out is entirely up to the schools which it was designed to aid.

Pres. George Meany of the AFL urges the government to "give the economy a shot in the arm" by undertaking a huge school, hospital and road construction program. Yes, but how many such shots does it take to make the country a drug (inflation) addict?

Rumors about General Motors got Wall Street to churning on Monday. News later came out that GMC would raise \$325 million through sale of new common stock. We trust that it develops that "what's good for General Motors is good for the country."

## Eisenhower Paradoxically Tells U. S. 'World At Peace, But Peace Is Impossible Today'

By WILLIAM L. RYAN  
AP Foreign News Analyst

In effect, President Eisenhower has told the nation in his State of the Union message that while "today the world is at peace," in actuality peace is impossible in today's circumstances.

That paradox was implicit in the message. It is a bitter paradox, and it was there because of a much more bitter one expressing the credo of Soviet communism: That peace is only an extension of war.

President Eisenhower expressed a noble aim for America's policy: Encouragement of "the efforts being made in the United Nations to limit armaments and to harness the atom to peaceful use."

Yet he also said that "pending a world agreement on armament limitations we must continue to improve and expand our supplies of nuclear weapons for our land, naval and air forces."

If the Soviet regime continues to rely on force, and if that regime is dedicated to the aim of communizing the world, then such a thing as disarmament becomes impossible, and the United States continues to live in a state of suspension between war and peace.

Implicit in the President's review was the conviction that so long as the Soviet Union is ruled by a regime of dedicated world Communists, real peace is not possible.

The President issued a grim warning: "If the Communist rulers understand that America's response to

aggression will be swift and decisive—that never shall we buy peace at the expense of honor or faith—they will be powerfully deterred from launching a military venture engulfing their own people and many others in disaster."

The President, at the same time,

## Your Health

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

New Anti-Rabies Serum  
SCIENCE can do a lot to help save your life if you are bitten by a mad dog.

The Pasteur and Semple vaccine treatments probably have saved countless lives. But they are not 100 per cent guarantees against death.

There is a new anti-rabies hyperimmune serum, however, that now gives promise of preventing the disease even when a victim has been bitten severely on the face or head. That is the most dangerous area for bites.

As I explained yesterday, the rabies virus reaches the brain through the nerves. Consequently, the closer the bite to the brain, the quicker rabies might develop, with death certain to follow.

Sometimes, if a person is bitten on the face or head, the disease may reach the brain before the vaccine gets a chance to go to work.

The hyperimmune serum seems to help the vaccine knock out the rabies virus. To be effective, however, the serum must be given to the victim within 72 hours after he is bitten. It is then followed by the regular vaccine injections.

underscores how important it is to remember that "the military threat is but one menace to our freedom and security." He said Americans must not only deter aggression, but also "frustrate the efforts of the Communists to gain their goals by subversion."

This was another warning. It signified the West's awareness that the Communists hope to gain all possible, short of risking a world war that might crush the movement and all its leaders. The warning therefore had to be a clear one: The free world, under American leadership, would be alert to prevent any more cheap victories aimed at chewing up nations one by one.

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## GRIN AND BEAR IT



"It's time to do your good deed for the day, Cub Scouts! ...  
It's time to go home! ..."

## Comes the Dawn

Work in getting the Capitol ready for the Legislature seems to be about as strenuous these days as the real thing. Two painters have been laboring for the past couple months, painting the second floor corridor walls between the house and senate floors. So far they've used 200 gallons of paint—which marks one of the new legal whitewashing jobs the Legislature will get. Due to a new policy this session of splitting up county delegations Marion County's four representatives will be barely within shouting distance of each other in the House.

And speaking of seating... Those who notice these things couldn't help but note that Sen. Neuberger has been seated at the far RIGHT of the U. S. Senate chamber.

Snow jobs, usually saved for later in the session, have already influenced the Oregon Legislature. Rep. Orval Eaton, member of the public employees' retirement interim committee, had to rush through 12 inches of snow to get to Salem from Astoria this week. And Rep. Edward A. Geary of Klamath Falls, House speaker-apparent, was almost a day late getting to Salem because of snow south of Eugene. Marion County Rep. Bill Chadwick says no seats on the floor of the House are considered "choice." He prefers one near the rear of the chamber, he says, so he can see what the others are doing without having to turn around.

Ellsworth Ricketts, a bridge engineer for the state highway commission, knows now the world doesn't really want him to go. Seems he had to make a quick check the other day on a work crew exploring the site for a new interstate bridge over the Columbia adjacent to the present Portland-Vancouver span. He parked his car and walked out onto the bridge. He hooked one leg over the rail and hollered down to the workmen below. Since he was on the side that didn't have a sidewalk and since he wanted to keep out of traffic he leaned out pretty far.

Well, he completed his check and was walking back to his car when a Vancouver police car flagged him down. He had to present his engineering credential before the suspicious cops would let him go. Seems a passing motorist had seen Ricketts on the bridge and then had reported him to police as a would-be suicide. Ricketts, of course, didn't have suicide in mind at all. Besides, most state employees are waiting to see what the Legislature does about salary increases before they do anything drastic.

Japanese educators visited the University of Oregon, where they were welcomed by Dr. Arnold Bennett Hall, president. While here they conferred on international and educational problems.

Dr. N. E. Irvine of Lebanon, was appointed by Governor Norblad a member of the State Board of Health to succeed the late Dr. Harold Bean of Portland.

Mexican International railroad lines west of Nuevo Laredo were torn up for a distance of several miles by the Garza troops to prevent pursuit by the Villa army from Monterey.

Mrs. Edward Dillon of Los Angeles, formerly Miss Franc Newman was a guest at the home of her mother, Mrs. Fred Tate. Mrs. Dillon wrote many articles for Moving Picture magazines.

According to the teachers' monthly reports submitted to City Superintendent Elliott there were 3096 pupils enrolled in the public schools here. Of this number 696 were in high school.

Nonchalantly knocking in, a four-foot putt on the 18th green at Los Angeles Sam Snead won the 19th annual Los Angeles Open tournament with a 72-hole score of 283. It was a \$1000 putt.

Tens of thousands of U. S. sixth army forces, accompanied ashore by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, landed along 15 miles of Lingayen gulf coast on Luzon island from an 800-ship convoy.

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## By Lichty

## British Avert Rail Strike

LONDON (U) — Union leaders called off Thursday night a nationwide rail strike scheduled to start Sunday midnight. The announcement came after the government brought union chiefs and management together in an effort to head off the strike.

The meetings were the first time both sides had sat down together since the strike call went out last month. The 400,000-strong National Union of Railwaymen (NUR) had scheduled the walkout to back up wage demands.

Union officials said members of the British Transport Commission, which runs Britain's nationalized rail service, had agreed that "wage rates would be adjusted" and "there would be no haggling."

The railwaymen's pay scale now ranges from the equivalent of \$17.06 to \$24.36 a week.

## Lumbermen Back Strike Panel's Ruling

PORTLAND (U) — The proposal of the governors' fact-finding panel for contract settlements at a 7 1/2-cent hourly wage increase was endorsed Thursday by the Lumbermen's Industrial Relations Committee's trustees.

The proposal was the result of the panel's investigation of the dispute that caused last summer's Northwest lumber industry strike. The panel recommended that contracts be made effective through April 1, 1956.

After the trustees meeting, J. Greely, LIRC chairman, said the proposal was welcomed because it would "assure peaceful union-employer relations for a considerable period of time."

Officials of both AFL and CIO lumber unions also have recommended acceptance of the proposal.

## CITY ATTORNEY NAMED

CORVALLIS (U) — The new city attorney here is LaVerne Johnson, 27, a 1952 graduate of the University of Oregon law school. He succeeds Richard Mengler, who became district judge.

## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page 1)

a fear in his address to the Congress. He took note of the shift, but appealed for cooperation to avoid the paralysis of indecision at a time when the country must face grave problems. He made an effective point when he said that both political parties are "on trial before the American people."

While the presidential message contained no shocks or surprises, it was strictly in character. Mr. Eisenhower seeks to serve the whole people as their President. He welcomes support from all; and surely he will need such support both within and outside of Congress. In the vast complicated mechanism of government now interlocked so intimately with private finance and business, and agriculture and labor, mistakes of judgment are costly, and confusion and pointless dissension can wreck havoc. On international levels the margin of safety and security is narrow; for wrong decisions can be costly in the extreme. The President in his message blows no trumpets sounding a charge on all fronts, but he does call for serious attention to our problems and a cautious approach to their solution. There may be little of the heroics in this; but there are times when conserving our position and our gains is of greater importance than launching new crusades.

The major problem for the United States, and for other nations too, is to complete a transition from the strain and disorder of world war. The readjustment has only just begun. To carry it forward without new military involvement or economic chaos is a task which calls for the exercise of the highest statesmanship. President Eisenhower has shown an awareness of the magnitude of this task. The universal prayer is that he can supply the leadership to achieve enduring progress toward peace and prosperity at home and abroad.

His appointment by the President does not require approval of the Senate.

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## State of Union Address Followed By Russ Retort

LONDON (U) — A top Soviet commentator said Thursday night President Eisenhower's State of the Union message was offering the American people "the same notorious policy of a position of strength—the invention to continue the arms race."

Moscow Radio's Valentin Zorin said the president "indicated no changes in this policy which has been condemned by the majority of the American people" with the Democratic victory in last November's congressional elections.

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## Senate Probe Due on Army Dentist Case

WASHINGTON (U) — Sens. Daniel (D-Tex.) and Watkins (R-Utah) said a decision has been reached to order a Senate investigation of the case of Maj. Irving Peress.

Peress is the New York dentist who was promoted and honorably discharged after refusing to answer questions from Sen. McCarthy (R-Wis.) about alleged Communist connections.

Daniel announced that he and 40 other senators, both Democrats and Republicans, have signed as co-sponsors a resolution designed to bring about the inquiry.

He and Watkins in separate interviews said they expect the inquiry will go forward, regardless