

The Oregon Statesman

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

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Some Spots Still Bright

Does it look like all the news is gloomy? Well, it isn't. Just to prove it, here are a few facts dug up and published by Kiplinger Magazine in Washington, D.C.

There are 162,922,000 Americans who are not members of the Communist Party.

Some 37,011,460 couples will stay more or less happily married during the year.

On the average, there are 63,968,000 people working to bring home the bacon.

Last year, scheduled airlines safely carried passengers 18,902,134,841 miles in the U.S. and possessions; railroads safely carried passengers 31,674,931,200 miles.

Some 162,717,890 persons will not die of cancer in 1955.

And 162,380,580 persons will be safe from fatal heart attacks.

About 629,000,000 acres of forest land will not be set on fire by careless smokers and picnic-goers this year.

Most of the time, 15,720,000 organized workers are not on strike.

The Internal Revenue Service will find that 43,846,154 income tax returns are filed correctly in 1955.

Finally, there are 83 countries in the world that have not discovered the secret of the hydrogen bomb.

And, so far as Salem is concerned, we might add that average earnings are up, there is no power or water shortage, the United Fund went over the top and we haven't had a report of a runaway horse in years.

Russia and Johnny Ray

The International News Service reports we have the Russians confused. They don't know what to make of Johnny Ray.

The Salem area had with the sentimental way of singing bears no resemblance to the party-line version of The Capitalist. No one could call him a war-monger. Although he acts like he is suffering while he is singing, he certainly cannot be classed as one of the "poor, suffering masses."

The newspaper Evening Moscow ran an article on Johnny in which the anti-American specialist B. Irinin described him as a "saint" of the American capitalist system.

In order to prove this, Irinin asks, "Don't many people embroider his name on their clothing? And wasn't it a miracle he came out alive when a Philadelphia mob tried to tear him apart to see what he was made of?"

The Russian writer describes Johnny's performance in these words, "Rolling his eyes and raising his hands toward the sky, he moans, cries and at last begins to snarl like a wild beast, deafening even the spectators in the back rows." To this he adds, "The noise doesn't bother Johnny himself—being hard of hearing, he carefully turns off his hearing aid before the performance."

No one in America would expect a Russian to understand the phenomenon which brought Johnny Ray acclaim and money. It was the independently arrived at judgment of millions of Americans that Johnny had that special talent of showmanship which makes him interesting and thereby entertaining.

Johnny would stand no chance of success in Russia where culture is decreed along classic lines.

We may go along with Russia in not entirely understanding Johnny Ray's particular type of entertaining, but we do understand the governmental system which gave him his chance for success and we think it is great.

talked of the need to identify the Party with a "moderate, progressive, middle-of-the-road philosophy."

He said that this was the kind of party the voters wanted, and he wanted. But, he added, he just did not believe in the theory of "the indispensable man."

There were many men in the Republican party capable of handling the Presidency—"some right here in this room"—and it was his Party's job to bring these men forward, to build them up, and develop their abilities.

The obvious question was whether the President had 1956 or 1960 principally in mind, when he was holding forth on the necessity for building up Presidential hopefuls. But no one thought—or perhaps no one dared—to ask this question.

One of those present left inclined to think that the President would bow out. Another, who arrived sure that the President would run, left even surer. And a third concluded that the President had quite genuinely not made up his mind.

This suggests that President Eisenhower is quite up to the task of keeping everybody guessing. That is a task he will have to continue to perform for many months to come, whatever his real intentions. Obviously, there are great advantages in keeping everybody guessing, and no advantages at all in making his intentions known.

Those who see him frequently swear to high heaven that he has never given any one (except possibly Mrs. Eisenhower) any real hint to what he actually means to do. But, for what it is worth, here is the almost unanimous view of members of the White House janissariat,

and others who come in frequent contact with him.

In the first place no one doubts that the President, now in his mid-sixties, really would very much like to retire to his Gettysburg farm and "put his feet up." No one doubts that Mrs. Eisenhower would like to do so even more. In this sense, when the President talks about building up a stable of Republican presidential possibilities, he probably actually does have 1956 rather wistfully in mind.

Even so, aside from Presidential aide Sherman Adams and perhaps one or two others, there is no one around him who seriously doubts that he will eventually bite the bullet and run again. This conviction is shared in both parties on Capitol Hill.

Partly this is because there are signs that the President is beginning really to enjoy his job. He is even beginning to enjoy politics as politics. In the early days, he used to complain that he did not see how a man could be leader of the country and leader of a political party at the same time. Now this seeming conflict no longer bothers him. At the political stag dinners, he has surprised and delighted state political leaders who have attended by his knowledge of, and interest in, the politics of their state.

But this is only a small part of the reason why the conviction that Eisenhower will run again is becoming almost universal. One Democrat put it this way: "From now on, just about every body like sees will be telling him that he owes it to his country to run. How can a man of Eisenhower's background possibly refuse? It is a hard question to answer."

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President Befuddles Those Who Wonder If He'll Run Again By Using Earnest Approach

By STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON — President Eisenhower bids fair to do at least as good a job as President Franklin Roosevelt, when it comes to baffling and bemusing the country about his intentions. Asked whether he would run again, Roosevelt used to resort to a mixture of humor and coyness, as a sort of conditioned reflex. Eisenhower's conditioned reflex is earnestness, which turns out to be even more difficult to interpret than coy humor.

The President gave a good demonstration of how to baffle people by being earnest a few days ago, at the most recent of the newly inaugurated series of White House political dinners. Former New York Gov. Thomas E. Dewey was the leading dinner guest, and in a period of relaxation over coffee and cigars, Dewey boldly introduced the question of the President's running again.

According to several of those present, Dewey was decidedly emphatic, clearly implying that it was the President's duty to accept the Republican nomination. This sentiment was heartily applauded by the 20 or so Republicans present, who then waited with bated breath to hear the President's response.

The President talked with great force, immense earnestness, and the abrupt hand-chopping gestures which are typical of him. He left his guests impressed—but wholly unenlightened. He talked about the need to attract young people into the Party—"young in spirit, if not in years," he

talked of the need to identify the Party with a "moderate, progressive, middle-of-the-road philosophy."

He said that this was the kind of party the voters wanted, and he wanted. But, he added, he just did not believe in the theory of "the indispensable man."

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Time Flies:

From The Statesman Files

10 Years Ago

Jan. 16, 1945

Secretary of State Stettinius endorsed a proposal by Foreign Minister Eden of Britain for periodic Anglo-American-Russian conferences to tighten cooperation among the allied powers.

Appointment of Eldon H. Thompson as assistant manager of the United States National Bank, Klamath Falls, was announced by Paul Dick, president of the parent banking institution.

Cpl. Douglas Drager, marine corps, called his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rue Drager, from San Diego, after arriving in the states from 30 months in the South Pacific. He is a graduate of Salem High school and attended the University of Washington.

25 Years Ago

Jan. 16, 1930

Emperor Hirohito dissolved the Japanese diet upon request of Premier Yuko Hamaguchi, who hoped an election in February would gain a majority for his party, the Minseito, which held the minority of the seats in the lower house.

The stock market gave the best account of itself that it had given in nearly two weeks, but nevertheless failed to break out of narrow trading area in which it had zigzagged with tiresome persistence since the first of the year.

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Time Flies:

From The Statesman Files

40 Years Ago

Jan. 16, 1915

Reflected in all the first week's work of the twenty-eighth biennial session of Oregon's legislative assembly, was the apparent effort made toward practicing that economy demanded by the people and to which the members were pledged.

More than 170 persons, most of them suffocated with smoke, were dragged from a hole on Broadway, at 53rd street, near the heart of the business section of the city, when fire spread through New York's underground tunnel.

Roy Remington, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Remington, received a bad fall at the corner of Center and Marion Streets when the handle bar of his bicycle caught in the wheel of a passing buggy and he was thrown to the pavement.

"Frank and Ernest"

DISCUSS "HOPE BEYOND THE GRAVE"

KSLM—Sunday, January 16, 1955 1:30 p.m.—6:15 p.m.

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