

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Deer a "Weed" Species

This is the closed season for hunting but deer have hit the newspapers with a bang in recent days. From Baker county came pictures of deer dead or dying of starvation; from Washington county a picture of purposeful slaughter of deer including fawns by irate ranchers tired of deer damage to their pastures. From the nearby Santiam country came the report of discovery of a number of dead deer. These reports are sure to excite public interest and concern. For all their predatory instinct human beings are tender-hearted toward animals, especially deer.

The news makes very pertinent the brief article by Clark C. VanFleet, former Oregonian, in the March Atlantic Monthly, entitled "Deer on the Rampage." VanFleet writes that under conditions of modern range management and usage deer "are actually a weed species." Deer are multiplying so fast that they "are becoming their own worst enemies and are eating themselves out of range and forage."

Several things account for the increase in deer population. First, of course, is the protection of the law. Hunting seasons are relatively short; the kill is strictly limited; law violations bring severe punishment. Second, the killing off of predatory animals: cougar, wolves, coyotes, eagles. Third, replacing of virgin forests with cutover lands whose brush furnishes good browse for deer. This is the result, in VanFleet's language:

"Today deer, protected and multiplying, are committing serious depredations on farmlands and gardens. Mountain vineyards are debudded of their tender foliage; fruit trees are cleaned of leaves as high as the deer can reach, and young orchards are wiped out if they are not protected by strong wire. Alfalfa and other crops are heavily browsed."

VanFleet writes with special reference to California where he now resides. There a 1952 study showed that over half the available range is being consistently grazed to depletion by deer and livestock. Oregon suffers similarly though it is not as bad off. Hunter-success in California was 16 per cent in 1953; here about 29 per cent. Where protection is not so stringent—Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Washington—the annual average is 53 per cent. What becomes of the deer which the hunter doesn't find? They die of starvation, or disease, weak from malnutrition they fall ready victims to coyotes and other predators.

What is the remedy? Well, it is one that will not please the sentimentalists. Quoting VanFleet again, and his opinion is entertained by a good many authorities in the game management field:

"No improvement in range management will do it, because unregulated deer populations will destroy more range than any public agency can afford to create. No lengthening of seasons will do it, since the buck kill has little relation to the spring crop of fawns. No increase in permissible kill will afford relief if legality is confined to bucks only. There seems to be but one answer. Does are deer."

The Idaho Federation of Labor has dropped Glen Taylor, late candidate for U. S. Senator, as a "dead horse" politically speaking. The Federation is just being smart cookie: play for a likely winner.

## 'Clarification' of U. S. Policy Concerning Formosa Makes Matters More Obscure

By J. M. ROBERTS  
Associated Press News Analyst

The more "clarification" we get about American policy toward Red China and defense of the Formosa Strait the more obscure it seems to become.

Right now, Secretary Dulles says, a Red attack on the offshore islands of Quemoy and Matsu would probably be classified as the beginning of an attack on Formosa. As such, under the one firm determination which has been made public, which is to defend Formosa, the attack would bring an American military reaction.

Later, he says, the Reds might move against the smaller islands in such fashion that their defense would not be considered worth the risk that a clash between United States and Red forces would produce a general war. It will be up to President Eisenhower, Dulles said, to interpret the exact meaning of events against the background of the circumstances in which they occur.

This presumably is based on the idea that mere possession of the small islands would mean little to the Reds in mounting an attack on Formosa, but that they would be fought over as part of the early counterattack against Red invasion of the main island.

This is comprehensible as a military approach. As a political approach in a situation where yielding further territory to the Reds could explode Asiatic confidence in the value of the United States as an ally, it is not so comprehensible.

The strange thing about the Dulles statement in Ottawa, however, is his reference to the "right" of the Communists to claim Formosa so long as they don't try to take it by force.

In some contexts, this might merely be a statement that anyone has a right to claim anything so long as they don't use illegal means of attainment. Actually, he is saying that the Formosa question is subject to negotiation when the threat of war is removed.

The secretary, however, referred to the similar "right" of South Korea to govern all of Korea, but not the right to take North Korea by force. He said the United States recognizes both of these "rights."

Since the United States recognizes this "right" of South Korea as a legal one, and ethical it is impossible to keep from wondering if Dulles meant the same about Formosa, and so is committing himself in advance of any negotiations.

Obviously he did not, for such a statement would be an admission that the United States is determined to keep, for strategic purposes, something that really belongs to Peiping. Obviously he did not, for the United States does not even recognize the right of the Peiping regime to rule on the mainland.

## Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

**TWO MINUTES UNTIL MID-NIGHT.** By Elmer Davis. Bobbs-Merrill.

"The most important single event in the history of the United States," Davis suggests, may have been the Russians' ability to make a thermonuclear bomb.

Too many of us, he warns, have too little comprehension of the unspeakable horrors of hydrogen-bomb war. Too many of us fail to understand that we might lose such a war. Among possible ways of averting catastrophe, he approves of atoms-for-peace, stronger support for Point Four and the President's trade program, a more realistic, nonpartisan attitude on foreign affairs, a little more diligence in keeping our friends abroad our friends. He condemns McCarran and McCarthy, complains that Dulles

has too much to say and Eisenhower too little. He warns starkly: "It will be excellent if we can keep it (war) from happening, but I doubt that we can." Coming quickly after Davis' best-selling "But We Were Born Free," this book is repetitive, and not so helpfully organized. But there's the same remarkable facility for putting into homely, striking phrases which a lot of people like to read the opinions which some of them don't like to hear. The title tells the story: "The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists" bears on the cover a clock that used to mark eight minutes to 12, but the danger hour has advanced. Or the dedication tells the story: "To the first victim of the hydrogen bomb, J. Robert Oppenheimer."

W. G. Rogers

## History's Repetition

Senator Knowland says that the late President Roosevelt "misled" Congress in his report on the Yalta conference. The President said on March 1, 1945:

"Quite naturally this conference concerned itself only with the European war and the political problems of Europe and not with the Pacific war."

It has long been known that the Yalta conference contained a lot of bargaining over the Pacific war, so Roosevelt's report was not strictly accurate. It is of course obvious why no disclosure was made of decisions or discussions regarding the Pacific war for Russia was still not involved in it.

The Knowland criticism brings to mind a similar criticism made by another senator from Calif. after the first world war. When Hiram Johnson asked President Wilson if he had known about the secret treaties between Britain and France and Italy to get the latter to join them in the war Wilson disclaimed all knowledge of them. Johnson doubted Wilson's ignorance and went on opposing the Treaty of Versailles and its Covenant of the League of Nations. History thus seems to be repeating itself.

To many television viewers the news that Paramount Studios has signed Comic George Gobel to star in a full-length film is heartening. It will be interesting to note whether his success in video will carry into the older entertainment field.

## Editorial Comment

### VANISHED LAKE CONDON

The Columbia river, so it seems, did not always flow westward through a gorge in the Cascades to spill into the Pacific.

Not long ago, geologically, the region drained by the present Columbia had outlets to the north, through corridors in mountain ranges of British Columbia.

That was before the glacial period, possibly a million years ago. Then came the great tongues of ice from the north, to choke valleys with glaciers to a depth of a thousand feet, form huge lakes and turn their north-trending rivers into south flowing streams.

It was a veteran Oregon geologist, Dr. Edwin T. Hodge, who advanced this theory some decades ago, after tramping through rugged canyons and climbing over hills with his students.

The theory is reviewed in the current issue of the News Letter published by the Geological Society of the Oregon Country.

Also reviewed is the theory of Dr. Hodge relative to the origin of the present Columbia river, second greatest stream in North America.

Dr. Hodge believes that the advancing lobes of ice choked the drainage of streams that formerly flowed north from the Idaho-Oregon-Washington region of the present.

The result was the creation in The Dalles area of a huge lake. That body of water has been given the name Lake Condon in honor of a pioneer geologist, Dr. Thomas Condon, who toiled in the Fort Dalles country some 80 years ago.

When Lake Condon reached an elevation of 1900 feet above sea level it discovered a divide, along the Orley anticline just west of The Dalles, and spilled westward to the Pacific slope.

That was the birth of the mighty Columbia. The overflow spilled into a comparatively small valley, and found its way to the Willamette, which was flowing north, possibly into the Puget Sound area. To the west was the coast range barrier.

From the Lake Condon overflow, still another lake, or sound, was formed, to flood much of northwestern Oregon. This was the Willamette sound, recognized even before Dr. Hodge's Columbia river hypothesis was advanced.

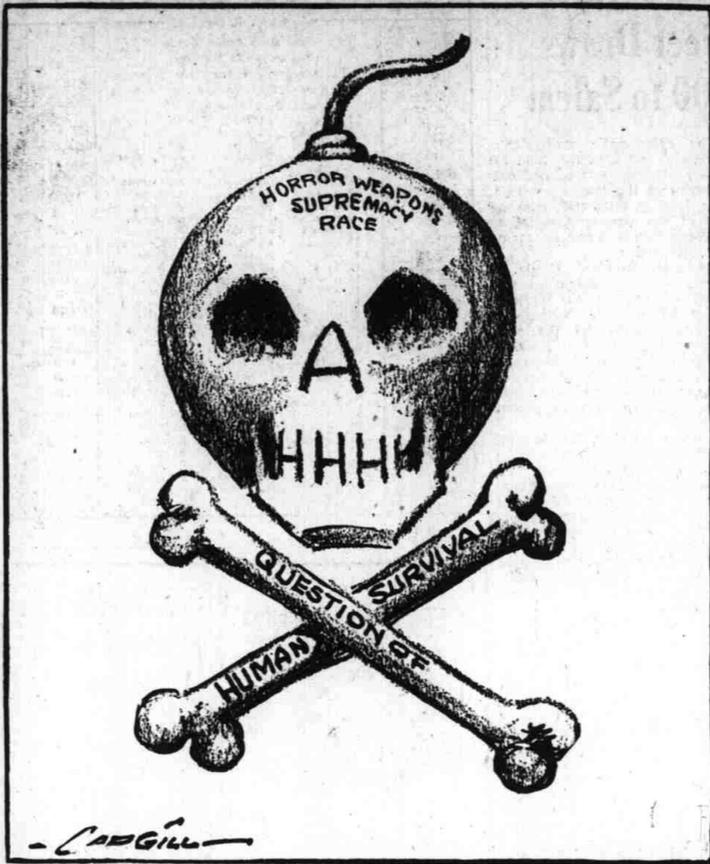
Eventually the sound was drained by an outlet in the present Astoria region.

Pouring over from the Orley anticline, the drainage from Lake Condon, and the ice-choked interior region, carved the majestic gorge of the present through the towering Cascade mountains.

This theory of the Columbia's reversal of course is bold and spectacular. Yet it has abundant supporting evidence. This evidence includes glacial erratics, "foreign rocks" of granitic origin rafted into the old Lake Condon region on ice, possibly from Canada.

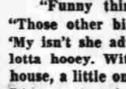
These erratics are now found along the high shores of old Lake Condon. (Bend Bulletin)

## BONES OF CONTENTION



Comes the Dawn  
by Conrad Franke

"Wheeee! Look at me," she says to herself. "Ten months old today. Only ten months old and I can walk like crazy. I can't talk—but so what? As long as a girl can walk, cry and bite she's got the world by a kite string. Now if I can just ease off the corner of the sofa here and steer a straight course for the big chair I'm all set. Because I know that under that chair is a nice, chewy pencil—and I haven't had anything to eat for the last two hours. Well—unless you want to count that piece of string and that corner of the Saturday Evening Post Cover..."



"Funny thing about this walking business," she thinks. "Those other big characters around here watch me and say, 'My isn't she advanced to be walking so soon?' Well, that's a lotta hooey. With all those other kids stumbling around this house, a little one like me HAS to learn how to walk—and fast. It's a matter of survival, not brains..."

"Ah," she muses silently, "here's the big chair. And here's that pencil. Now if none of those big Bussybodies sees me. Nothing like sinking these new teeth (all four of them) into a nice, firm pencil... But it seems like every time I get hold of something edible, like my shoe or a marble, somebody screams, Mother! The Baby's got something in her mouth again. The Mother comes running in, yanks out whatever I'm gnawing on, and the fun's over. This other character called Daddy (he's gone all day and comes home at night and right away starts throwing his weight around) tried taking a checker away from me once. I only had three teeth then—but I gave him a bite he'll never forget..."

"Now," she says, "if I can just make it over to the TV set in the corner here. Mumbo! But those big, shiny knobs really fascinate me! But I have to move fast—or I won't even get my fat little hands on them. If there's one way to get everybody in this house yelling and screaming, it's for me to fiddle with those knobs when the family is glued to a program. And I'm proud to say I've ruined more good TV shows than all those corny commercials put together... Anyway, my views on TV can be summed up in one word—'Bristzum.' Which is the only word I can pronounce..."

## Time Flies:

10 Years Ago  
Mar. 20, 1945

Edward Sammons, vice-president of the Iron Fireman Manufacturing company, was named president of the United States National Bank of Portland. Sammons, who was vice-president of the bank until 1928 when he resigned. He succeeds Paul S. Dick, who became chairman of the board.

40 Years Ago  
Mar. 20, 1915

Salem High School won the debate championship of the Western Oregon district by defeating the Bandon team at Eugene. Salem debaters were Lytle Bartholomew and Victor Bradeson.

25 Years Ago  
Mar. 20, 1930

Aimed primarily at giving a number of men needed employment, but designed to eliminate what the members considered a needless traffic nuisance the city planning and zoning commission directed a resolution to the city council, cutting off the corners on a large number of street intersections.

From The Statesman Files

Washington (U. S. —) The Commerce Department told Congress Tuesday newsprint supplies should be adequate to meet this country's needs in the foreseeable future.

Supplies Adequate

WASHINGTON (U. S. —) The Commerce Department told Congress Tuesday newsprint supplies should be adequate to meet this country's needs in the foreseeable future.

WOMEN OF THE SOCIAL SERVICE club of Oak Grove, Clackamas county, were aroused because the hobbie skirts they wore interfered with entering or leaving cars of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company.

## Safety Valve

(Editor's Note: Letters for The Statesman's Safety Valve column are given prior consideration if they are informative and are not more than 300 words in length. Personal attacks and ridicule, as well as libel, are to be avoided, but anyone is entitled to air beliefs and opinions on any side of any question.)

To the Editor:  
The Republican Party nationally would have us believe that it is the last outpost of defense of the free enterprise system and that if the Democrats had the chance they would carry us all down the road to socialism, and in this connection it will be most interesting to observe what the Oregon Republicans do in the legislature about the milk legislation. Here the majority has a golden opportunity to make its actions speak louder than its words by showing some leadership in the preservation of free enterprise in the milk industry.

The dairy farmer represents in classic form both small business and free enterprise and yet in this Republican state and with a Republican majority in both houses, he has a terrible time finding anyone to carry his flag. By making ever more burdensome the amount of capital outlay required for equipment, and by making more complicated regulations and then changing them capriciously, our legislators are in a fair way to making the small, independent dairyman an extinct species, for no small operator can afford to stay in business. He must either be a big producer, or sell to a big one and then he is no longer independent for he is under constant threat of losing his market unless he will submit to control by the producer-distributor. The net effect of this legislation will be to give us milk control with a vengeance. Milk will become a monopoly product and the consumer will have to accept whatever milk the industry chooses to put out at whatever price it wishes to charge. It is already legal to dilute milk and it would be legal to add powdered milk. What the milk industry needs is good stiff competition to force the production of more and better milk at better prices, to stimulate the per capita consumption of milk through merchandising and advertising, and to encourage experiments in new products and methods.

If the preservation of competition and free enterprise really is the credo of the Republicans, it should not be difficult to so demonstrate with the present majority, and action in this practical situation would certainly add weight to the Republican claim.

Nina Cleveland  
Mrs. Melvin H. Cleveland  
4137 Center St.

IT SEEMS TO ME  
(Continued from page one)

atomic weapons because we simply do not have the forces in the Far East to win with conventional weapons. Alsop reports the massing of Communist jet planes at bases on the mainland. U. S. reliance is on the Seventh Fleet with its six big carriers. Many experts, however, feel that the land-based planes will have a big advantage over those based on carriers. If the carriers are put out of business then the naval air arm is amputated.

Of course the Air Force has planes back at other bases, Okinawa, Japan, Guam, the Philippines; and more planes could be flown in from other parts of the world. The prospect that if war does break out and precision A-weapons do not bring a quick victory then more powerful ones will be employed. So it is not safe to count on victory though the A-Force.

Joseph C. Harsch, Washington correspondent for the Christian Science Monitor, explains how we got our feet in the fly paper over Quemoy and other offshore islands. It grows out of the early 1953 decision to "unleash" Chiang Kai-shek. Before that the Generalissimo had only token forces on these islands. Afterwards, hoping the unleashing was preliminary to a triumphant "return from Elbe" he built up forces on these islands which were to be used as stepping stones. The U. S. provided most of the material. Having first had the U. S. blessing Chiang now resists pressure to evacuate these islands; and Washington is thus caught in a net partially of its own contriving.

Apparently decisions have been made both in Peking and Washington. Peking proclaims its intention to seize the offshore islands and Formosa, too. Washington announces its determination to defend Formosa and in view of its expressions now seems pretty well bound to defend the offshore islands. Congress by overwhelming vote has approved this policy. Britain, seeking to mediate the dispute by trading the offshore islands for security for Formosa has made no progress. These positions appear to be rigid; but it is still a question if and when Red China will move. So the United States stands with A-weapons in hand; and now the whole world is on notice that our forces will use them.

Russia's help, then, was still needed against Germany no less than (as the military brass insisted) against Japan. So it had to be bought by concessions. So

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