

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Teletype Net Helpful

Expansion of the state teletype network is requested in pending legislation does not seem out of line in the light of increasing criminal activity in the growing Northwest. The "net" is a speedy means of written communication, operating on a 24-hour basis, to help law enforcement agencies by fast exchange of information on motor vehicle registrations and driver license information affecting wanted persons, on stolen cars, on other police matters.

Center of the communications system is at the Capitol, under the state motor vehicle department, but city police, county sheriff and other agencies on the network also pay a share of the costs of leased wires necessary to the system.

State senators sent the bill back to committee this week after some of them complained that there was another costly new service that the state couldn't afford.

However, sheriffs, police and district attorneys' statewide organizations are backing the expanded network plan. The money involved would come from the state general fund and the House already has approved the bill which sets out the \$159,000 communications budget, within motor vehicle funds. The amount of this which represents the proposed network expansion is only about \$53,000 at most—and may be considerably less than that if not all the 18 additional cities contemplated are functioning in the network during the entire biennium. It is doubtful that the entire expansion would be accomplished immediately.

Purpose of the legislation is to improve communication with coastal and Eastern Oregon points. The 21 present net points are in Western Oregon, Hood River and The Dalles, and also are hooked in with California via Medford. Most cities pay about \$50 a month for the service. It seems to complement rather than to duplicate radio setups which larger centers utilize and we would be inclined to accept the word of those who see it as a needed aid in combatting crime.

End and Beginning—49 Years Ago  
"Not in history has a modern imperial city been so completely destroyed." San Francisco is gone! Nothing remains of it but memories and a fringe of dwelling houses on its outskirts... Within an hour after the... shock the smoke of San Francisco's burning was a lurid tower visible 100 miles away. And for three days and nights this lurid tower swayed in the sky, reddening the sun, darkening the day, and filling the land with smoke...

There was no opposing the flames. There was no organization, no communication. All the cunning adjustments of a 20th-century city had been smashed... All the shrewd

## Bilbo White Supremacy Stand Got Headlines, But Plans for Salvation of Cotton Got Results

By STANLEY MEISLER

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Twenty years ago, the late Sen. Theodore Bilbo (D-Miss), powered by two ideas, stepped into Congress. He had decided to resettle Negroes and save cotton.

His first plan, to ship American Negroes to Africa, grabbed headlines all over the nation and made Bilbo the symbol of white supremacy in the South. The symbol grew so large it overshadowed the soundness of his second idea.

But out of the plan to save cotton grew four regional research laboratories. These scientific centers now save American farmers, especially those of the South, millions of dollars each year.

Because of Bilbo's plan, scientists at the Southern regional research lab in New Orleans, can show you, for example:

Pickles that won't get soft. Cotton that won't burn when you light it with a match. Cotton woven so strong water won't leak through it.

Cottonseed meal refined to such an extent it won't sicken squeamish chickens. Butter candy mixed so it will store without smelling.

As far as Southern lab scientists and congressional appropriations are concerned, cotton is still king. Almost two-thirds of the lab's \$2,400,000 budget this year was earmarked for cotton and cottonseed research.

Bilbo asked Congress for a research lab on cotton. Growers piled up too much of it during the depression and his idea was to have the lab figure out new uses for cotton.

Congress extended the idea to all crops. Under the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, regional labs were set up at New Orleans, Philadelphia, Peoria, Ill., and Albany, Calif. By 1941, all were in operation.

During years of research, regional labs have developed two goals — to improve use of the crop and to find new things to do with it.

Hard pickles come under the heading of improvement. American housewives refuse to dish out nickels for soft pickles. To the 22 million dollar cucumber industry, this means an annual loss of 2 million dollars a year. At a Southern regional lab station in Raleigh, N.C., John Etchells and other scientists discovered that a little flower light on the end of the cucumber housed the evil doer.

contrivances and safeguards of man had been thrown out of gear...

"Remarkable as it may seem, Wednesday night, while the whole city crashed and roared in ruin, was a quiet night. There were no crowds. There was no shouting and yelling. There was no hysteria, no disorder. I passed Wednesday night in the part of the advancing flames, and in all those terrible hours I saw not one woman who wept, not one man who was excited, not one person who was in the slightest degree panic-stricken.

"Before the flames, throughout the night, fled tens of thousands of homeless ones. Some were wrapped in blankets. Others carried bundles of bedding and dear household treasures. Baby buggies, toy wagons and go-carts were used as trucks, while every other person was dragging a trunk. Yet everybody was gracious. The most perfect courtesy obtained. Never in all San Francisco's history were her people so kind and courteous as on this night of terror...

"San Francisco, at the present time, is like the crater of a volcano, around which are camped tens of thousands of refugees. All the surrounding cities and towns are jammed with the homeless ones, where they are being cared for by the relief committees... The government has the situation in hand, and thanks to the immediate relief given by the whole United States, there is not the slightest possibility of a famine. The bankers and businessmen have already set about making preparations to rebuild San Francisco."

This is no imaginative story of the destruction of San Francisco by some future nuclear weapon, although it was written by one of America's top fiction writers. These excerpts, preserved in "A Treasury of Great Reporting," are from an eyewitness account by Jack London of San Francisco's earthquake, April 17, 1906.

As if life wasn't getting complicated enough, now comes our little women learning judo and if we come home with a raffle ticket instead of the family groceries we're likely to get tossed clear over the woodshed.

## Editorial Comment

THE LEMONADE FOUNTAIN

In a square in Copenhagen—where else should such a thing happen?—there has appeared a fountain that spurts lemonade. A timely dispensation to this age—an age becoming more accustomed to measuring radiation at the scene of an atomic blast than to looking for pots of gold at the rainbow's end.

We shall not inquire too deeply into causes behind the appropriate phenomenon recently witnessed in Hans Christian Andersen's home town. They are causes benevolent toward children, and thus entitled to be classified as "natural."

The point is that there could—could—be such a fountain after all. The news will spread like wildfire along those American trails blazed by seekers of the "Big Rock Candy Mountains." But a word of warning may be kind.

Ponce de Leon did not find a fountain of youth by looking for it for himself. And the rock candy will always be in the next range over yonder for private prospectors.

Wonders such as a lemonade fountain spring mostly from unseen, because profound, sources. Among these are:

- 1. A very comprehensive sense of what is important in life.
- 2. Certainty that moments charged with beauty and love, or just whimsy and kindness, can advance mankind farther than decades of stolidity or indifference.
- 3. A surmise that giving children a lemonade fountain to remember may be as durable an achievement as some great work of statecraft or industry. What we do for children shapes tomorrow.—(Christian Science Monitor.)

In the flower lurked an enzyme, a chemical that can change the structure of living material. When the pickle men dropped a cucumber into a barrel, the enzyme crawled through the brine into the vegetable. The result: A soft pickle.

Understanding this, pickle makers now must either remove the flower or drain off the brine after it has soaked up the enzyme. The result is a 2 million dollar saving to the cucumber industry. Under the heading of new uses lies the story of flame-resistant cotton. For 25 years, cotton has been losing markets to rayon and nylon and wool and paper. So government scientists jumped into the battle to help the cotton farmers.

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If you light THCP-treated cotton cloth, it won't flame. It won't even glow. The match just leaves a black spot. And Reeves and Guthrie add, THCP may have other properties. Treated cotton, perhaps, will not wrinkle, rot or mildew.

And, most important, THCP stays on. Guthrie and Reeves figure their discovery may put more cotton into baby blankets, clothes and army equipment.

But experimenting isn't over. The lab doesn't know how much it will cost to treat the cotton or how THCP-treated clothes will wear.

Most lab projects are like that—never complete. As soon as something is accomplished, researchers try to improve it. Another example is the work that made chickens find it more fun to peck at cottonseed than each other.

The meal feeds used to make chickens sick. In addition, it sometimes wasn't filling, and the undernourished chickens would chase their neighbors for a little nibble. Poultry men call this "cannibalism."

Scientists at the lab knew the sickening part of the meal was a chemical called gossypol, found in the tiny pigment sacks of the cottonseed. Gossypol can unite with other chemicals and become a new harmless substance. When heated to a very high temperature, gossypol combines. Southern lab men, under the direction of Dr. F.H. Thurber, discovered a new process. Keep the temperature below boiling and heat slowly. All but a drop of gos-

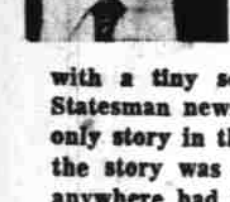
## GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



... is working hard together and making quota at glorious factory comrade sweats... and maybe commissar of production is letting us grow old together...



Early Saturday ayem—some 10 hours after the Meier & Frank store bombing in Portland—The Statesman had two front pages ready for the press. And, naturally, only one could be used. One carried the regular Associated Press story of the bombing. The other led off with The Statesman's exclusive conclusion that the bombing comprised an extortion plot of considerable magnitude, and that a chase of the criminal was leading up the Willamette Valley. The choice of pages had to be made by press time—which was 15 minutes away...



Two last-minute phone calls were made to points 200 miles apart and one paid off with a tiny scrap of negative information—which let the Statesman news editor give the order to let 'er roll with the only story in the state on the extortion attempt. Hours later the story was confirmed in full... No other newspaper anywhere had the story until 24 hours later. Where did the Statesman get it? Not from any "release" or official source, that's for sure. Alert reporters nailed it together with tiny scraps of what seemed unrelated information at the time.

First there were runblings from Portland regarding an intense investigation. AP had nothing to offer. Neither did police. Unexplained concentration of police cars at certain points along 99E, plus an unconfirmed and what seemed an unimportant report that a taxi was being sought added up to a suspicion. This, mixed with small, unrelated fragments of info from a variety of sources soon fitted together like a jigsaw into a startling conclusion—namely, an extortion plot. And no denials were forthcoming, so that she blowed...

The E. S. Ritter Co., which is wrecking the old St. Joseph's Church, used a lot of sweat and prayers Tuesday in tearing down the steeple. Seems that, as was customary in those days (1889), the steeple was built of four huge, foot-square, hand-hewed timbers, each about 70 feet long. They reach from the basement of the church to the top of the steeple. And the entire steeple is held together with oak dowels instead of the old-fashioned square iron nails used in the rest of the church—which made it so rugged workmen had to saw the steeple off at each level instead of trying to dismantle it...

And those fine, old stained-glass windows—those with the figures, anyway—were sent to Florence to be installed in a Catholic Church there. Ritter still has the plain-colored windows at his warehouse here. In the attic of the old parish house Ritter's crew came across a bunch of old antique picture frames, which he sold like hot cakes to collectors... The 1,200 pound bronze bell from the old church will be polished and returned to the parish. Among other items which workmen uncovered were two apparently unused, engraved, grave stones wedged between the walls of the church. And if you're looking for an angel, Ritter has a stack of plaster ones he'll give away...

## Time Flies: From The Statesman Files

10 Years Ago  
April 20, 1945  
A distinguished flying cross was presented recently to First Lt. Edwin Maerz, Salem, for "Extraordinary achievement while participating in medium bombardment missions totaling more than 200 hours."

40 Years Ago  
April 20, 1915  
The German auxiliary cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm, which put into Hampton Roads recently after a notable commerce destroying cruise, was interned for the war at the Norfolk navy yard near her destroyer sister raider, the Prinz Eitel Friedrich.

25 Years Ago  
April 20, 1930  
Thousands of children of assorted ages participated in the annual Easter egg hunt sponsored by the Salem Lions club, on the lawn just inside the main entrance to the state fairgrounds. Five thousand eggs wrapped in colored paper was provided by the Lions club.

Better English  
By D. C. Williams  
1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I do not know as I can come, but my brother will fix your clock."  
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "ague"?  
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Height, heinous, helicopter, hemorrhage.  
4. What does the word "phantasm" mean?  
5. What is a word beginning with fe that means "malicious; villainous"?

ANSWERS  
1. Say, "I do not know if I can come, but my brother will repair your clock. 2. Pronounce cent first syllable. 3. Hemorrhage. 4. A phantasm. 5. Felonious.

Unusual photograph in colors of the Salem Klitte band appeared in the window of the Gunnell and Robb studio. Musicians were John Charge, Andrew Henderson, James McGilchrist, Kenneth McWilliams and Arthur Hutcheon.

A bottle of Burgundy wine, purchased in 1856 to be used as a toast to his departed comrades by the final survivor of the famous Last Man's club of Stillwater, Minn., turned to vinegar. This was revealed by Charles Lock-

## IT SEEMS TO ME (Continued from page one)

the agreement reached by Secretary Hull on his wartime visit to Moscow that Austria would be treated differently than Germany, since it had been coerced into alliance with Hitler.

The purpose of the USSR in thus abruptly extending an olive branch to Austria may be to attract West Germany. The treaties allowing the rearming of the latter have been ratified, but many months will elapse before the rearming is accomplished. Having failed to defeat the treaties Russia now may try other tactics to avert what they regard as a major threat. Instead of making threats of use of force Russia may try to win Germany by attractive bargains.

As Lord Strang of Stonestfield points out in an article in April "Foreign Affairs" the USSR has some good trading stock. It might offer return of the East German territory snatched away as compensation for Poland for its loss of territory to Russia. It can dangle the promise of German unification, the abiding hope of every good German. If a big power conference is held the sincerity of Russia's intentions may be tested.

In the Berlin conference of February, 1954, Russia made some phony offers on elections with no assurance as to time or insurance of freedom in voting. It proposed unification of the present governments of East and West Germany which would give the Reds a government leverage to start with. Lord Strang reports that the proposals of the western power at Berlin "are logical and consistent: Free elections under international supervision; convocation of a National Assembly; framing of a constitution; establishment of a provisional all-German government; preparation and signing of a peace treaty.

The western allies are pleased that Russia seems disposed to join in a state treaty with Austria. They will observe whether the USSR is ready for a settlement of the German question on terms which will give the German people unity under freedom. If that could be accomplished coexistence would have promise of greater length of life.

## 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.)

### Resolution

To the Editor: Whereas, it has consistently been the recommendation of the Oregon State Capitol Planning Commission that the entire area from Court Street north to "D" Street and from Capitol to Winter Streets be ultimately included in the Capitol mall, and Whereas, the State Legislative Assembly declared in 1951 by House Joint Resolution No. 15 that it is the intent of the State of Oregon to acquire and include in the mall the above real property, and Whereas, the State is by statute limited to the purchase of property to the area south of Union Street, and Whereas, the declared intent of the resolution to purchase more property than has been authorized by statute has created a general feeling that the mall will terminate at Union Street and has also created a condition of uncertainty on the part of property owners in the area north of Union Street and makes the sale of property in the area difficult, now, therefore, Be it resolved by the Executive Committee of the Oregon Chapter of the American Institute of Architects that the Oregon Chapter, A.I.A. recommend to the 48th Legislative Assembly that Chapter 107, Oregon Law 1951 (O.R.S. 276.046) be amended to authorize the State to purchase for inclusion into the Capitol mall all property from Court to "D" Streets and from Capitol to Winter Streets.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Salem, Oregon.

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## Oregon Ocean Front Losing Its Timber

By LILLIE L. MADSEN Farm Editor, The Statesman  
While driving along the Oregon ocean front, any true Oregon resident is apt to become a little upset at seeing numbers of the huge old trees being taken out of even small patches of timber. These small patches of big timber have added much to the beauty of the Oregon ocean front. A group of us were making such a drive and such complaints Sunday. We noted a small piece of timber, we had always admired, being what we termed "logged off."

But as in many places, getting at the truth of the matter dispels considerable misunderstanding and incorrect placing of blame. While the owners of the timber are, of course, being well paid, many of the trees being downed might be removed anyway, and certainly many of them still containing good lumber would be destroyed. In several small pieces we found that only injured and beetle-infested trees were being removed.

Beetles Destroy Timber  
A stop at the forestry department at Oregon State College, and a brief talk with Dr. W. B. Bollen, bacteriologist, and Dr. K. C. Lu, research assistant in bacteriology, brought out the statement that the bark beetle has been destroying more timber in the Pacific Northwest than is converted to lumber each year.

At present the only method of controlling the insect—and this has not been too successful—has been to remove trees which are attacked by the beetle. One ill wind that might be said to have assisted in the research was that in December, 1951, when a severe storm brought a heavy blowdown of Douglas fir trees along the coast range. Two weeks after that blowdown, I happened along the highway, and for miles much of the forest had the appearance of Paul Bunyan and his oxen having trampled through the trees. It was in this blowdown that the destructive bark beetles were first detected in great numbers.

Since first noted, they have multiplied rapidly and recently have been found attacking standing timber in many areas throughout the Pacific Northwest. Like other tree borers, this bark beetle seems to confine most of its work to trees that have been damaged.

Don Allen, Salem, Assists  
And here Don Allen, research entomologist for the Oregon State Board of forestry, Salem, came into the picture. He first suspected that the insects were attracted to yeast fermentation products formed in damaged trees. He made the discovery which searching for a bark beetle control method after the finding of the beetles in the down timber. Trees attacked in standing timber, were trees damaged first in some other way. The beetles bore through the bark and then completely sirdle the tree trunk. A fungus follows the work of the beetle, and the tree is destroyed.

Following Allen's diagnosis, the forest products conservation committee of the state board of forestry, made a \$1,450 grant to the state agricultural experiment station to study further this attraction of yeasts to the insects. Bollen and Lu said that they plan to learn what is in the fermentation products of the yeasts to attract the beetles.

When this is found, cultures will be made and large amounts grown as baits. It is hoped that by the use of these baits in the

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