

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## No U.S. Citizenship for Churchill

Senator Smathers of Florida has said he would introduce legislation to make Sir Winston Churchill an "honorary" citizen of the USA. In the discussion attending the suggestion a precedent was cited, that of Marquis de Lafayette. Researchers in the State department, however, failed to find any confirmation of this report, though it was found that Maryland conferred state citizenship on the Marquis who had fought under Washington for American independence, and on his heirs "in perpetuity." Virginia also extended its citizenship of Lafayette. But not Congress.

There just is no such thing as "honorary citizenship." One is a citizen of one country or another, unless his country has been washed out leaving him "stateless" as has been true of thousands in the late years of war and revolution.

It is true that Churchill is one-half American, his mother having been born in this country. As he remarked in an address in the U. S. Senate in wartime had it been the other way round, and his father an American, he might have been a member of that body.

Churchill will not miss the distinction of becoming an "honorary citizen" of the USA. He knows he is held in high esteem here; and we know the affection he holds for this country. In fact he counts as one of his greatest achievements the obtaining of assistance for his country from the United States through the active cooperation of President Roosevelt. As he smokes his cigars and sips his brandy he can feel that the United States served him and his country well in the critical years, 1940 and after.

## Passing of the Third Avenue El

Eyes of denizens of Third avenue, New York, soon will blink as the sunshine comes straight through after the lapse of three-quarters of a century when it was filtered through the tracks and trestles of the Third Avenue Elevated. The last train has made its run from lower to upper New York City. The antiquated structure with its quaint overhead stations will come down. Motor buses will replace the El for local transit.

The El started down in old Chinatown, crossed the famed Bowery, came uptown past flats and shops and stores and on into the Bronx. A trip for its length gave one a "bedside" picture of how many of New York's citizens lived, and an overhead view of the street traffic below: the pushcarts, the sidewalk displays, the crowds. Kids were seen playing in the streets and hanging onto the fire escapes, and washings were always in evidence.

A similar view though of shorter length may be had from New York Central trains after they emerge from the tunnel into Grand Central station and course through Harlem, but travel will be quite different for those who long have been patrons of the old El. Of course if they are too much aggrieved they might move to Chicago where the Elevated is still firmly established, now under municipal ownership along with the street cars and buses.

## 'Scientific' Poll Indicates Eisenhower to Seek Reelection in Face of GOP Pressure

By STEWART ALSOP  
WASHINGTON — Whether President Eisenhower will run again in 1956 is sure to be debated endlessly, until the President himself gives the deciding word. Pending that time, this reporter has attempted to put the debate on a slightly — very slightly — more scientific basis, by taking a one-man poll.



In a long day on the telephone, 20 Senators and 20 newspaper reporters were reached — an adequate sampling, according to polling theory. There seemed to be more Republicans than Democrats with their noses to the grindstone, so the final proportion among Senators was 12 Republicans to 8 Democrats. All interviews were "not for attribution," to promote candor. The answers to the question "Will Ike run?" broke down as follows:

Flat, confident no: Two Democrats, two newspapermen, no Republicans.

Hesitant no: One Democrat, four newspapermen, still no Republicans.

Flat, confident yes: Seven Republicans, one Democrat, five newspapermen.

Hesitant yes: Four Republicans, four Democrats, eight newspapermen.

Unsettled fence-sitter: One Republican.

Stern refusal to participate: One newspaperman.

This works out about 72.5 per cent "yes," 22.5 per cent "no," and 5 per cent no answer. The heavy majority view that the President will run was perhaps not very surprising. Yet the

pulse-feeling did develop some features worth remarking.

Except for one cynical newspaperman who thought the President's supposed reluctance was an act, everybody assumed that the President really did not want to run. Why should more than seven out of ten think he would run, despite his own genuine inclinations?

Part of the answer is found in another very general belief. Two Democratic Senators and a couple of reporters thought that the President might be beaten. But almost everyone else agreed in substance with a Democratic Senator who has himself been spoken of as a White House possibility:

"For the first time, just in the past two or three weeks, I've begun to think he might not go. But I still just can't see how anybody we put up he'd knock his head off, and if they put anyone else up, we'd knock his head off. So the Republicans just can't let him go to Gettysburg."

Over and over again, in one form or another, came the phrase: "He can't resist the pressure." The Republicans naturally tended to put the matter on a high plane. "Ike's a soldier," said one Republican who spoke for the rest, "and he's got a tremendous sense of duty. He knows he owes it to the country and the Party to run, and he's never shirked a duty yet."

The reporters and the Democrats tended to be more cynical. One literary Democrat compared the President to the reluctant lady in Byron's "Don Juan," who, "whispering 'I will ne'er consent,' consented." A reporter, no admirer of the President, had this to say: "Ike's really a pliant kind of guy, at least about politics—look at the '52 and '54 campaigns. They'll really hold his

feet to the fire this time, and in the end he'll go."

One of the two Democrats who flatly predicted that the President would not run had an odd explanation: "Shucks, I like golf too, and I'm up in '56. Suppose I'd already made up my mind not to run again, why, I'd be out on the course half the time. But I want it, and here I am up here running myself ragged. Ike's not running himself ragged, not by a long shot."

If women's intuition is worth anything, the majority is wrong. Sen. Margaret Chase Smith has publicly voiced her doubts about the President's running, and one reporter's wife who answered the telephone agreed: "All the women I know say no."

Yet her husband, a brilliant White House reporter, spoke for the male majority: "Ike really does love that farm, and he really does hate Washington—he really does want him to retire. But what can he possibly say when the men he admires most tell him: 'Mr. President, you've got to run, or everything you've stood for is lost.'"

The results of this pulse-taking were, obviously, even more inconclusive than usual, since the one person who could give a really authoritative answer was not available for questioning. But the interviews did suggest the amazing extent to which President Eisenhower now dominates the American political scene. "The man's a great political genius," one reporter remarked. "He does what no politician in American history has been able to do—he makes hardly any enemies, only friends. And the Republican party's not going to let its one and only political genius retire."

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## Changes on State Board

Two recent changes in the membership of the State Board of Higher Education call for comment. Edgar Smith, of Portland, after serving 16 years as board member, much of the time as president, declined reappointment. In his place Governor Patterson named Charles Holloway Jr., Portland business man. Last week G. F. Chambers of Salem offered his resignation for personal reasons and Bernard Mainwaring, editor and publisher of the Capital Journal, Salem, was appointed as his successor.

A word should be said by way of appreciation of the service rendered by the retiring members. Edgar Smith took his duties with great seriousness and devoted a large measure of his time in performing them. He was genuinely devoted to the cause of higher education and sought modifications in the original system setup which would make the institutions serve better the youth of the state.

Salem's Ted Chambers is a graduate of OSC (Smith attended the UofO for several years but took his degree at Cornell). Those who thought that Chambers would be partial to his alma mater were fooled for he never let loyalty to it qualify his judgment on system matters. A man of clear judgment with ripe business experience he proved a valuable member. His recent assignment as chairman of the building committee was a recognition of his qualifications.

The successors: Holloway is a graduate of the state university, is one of the younger group of Portland businessmen (fuel and ice), and has been very active in civic affairs. Bernard Mainwaring is an OSC graduate but one who will bring no partisanship to his work on the board. He has had experience on boards of church-related colleges in Oregon and Washington. The energy and ability he has shown in the publishing field and his active support of education and civic progress qualify him well for service on this important board.

One of the most shocking incidents in the career of foreign correspondents is that reported from Singapore where Gene Symonds, United Press manager for Southeast Asia was beaten and kicked to death by rioting students. The mob dragged him from a taxi, beat him with stones and clubs and left him lying in the street. The police appear to have been guilty of gross negligence. Symonds had served as correspondent through most of the Korean War and was doing his job as a reporter trying to cover a strike-riot situation in Singapore when he was set upon.

## Editorial Comment

### A FAMILY OF MOUNTAINS

Out of a battle organization has developed Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness, Inc. It is a group originally formed to fight the move by the U. S. Forest Service to reduce the wilderness area from 248,000 to 198,000 acres. Strong testimony in behalf of retention of the area at its present size and along its present boundaries was developed at a hearing in Eugene in February.

That testimony is now being reviewed by forest officials and a decision may be expected by mid-year.

But in the meantime the group that spearheaded the fight to retain the present boundaries of the area—which has as its central feature the Three Sisters and the Cascade skyline, finds itself free to join in other activities.

Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness formally incorporated at a meeting in Eugene this past week and named a veteran Oregon mountaineer and educator, Karl W. Onthank, as its president and charted plans for extensive scientific research in the virgin land.

One of the objectives of the group will be to educate the public in the proper use of this and other wilderness areas.

But more generally Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness will be concerned with studies that will bring to the attention of Oregonians that in the Three Sisters country is a region of park-like beauty—a region formed by volcanic action and sculptured by great glaciers.—Bend Bulletin.

## LABORS OF HERCULES



## Time Flies

### FROM STATESMAN FILES

#### 10 Years Ago

May 15, 1945  
A winter plot to assassinate Gen Eisenhower, one of the European theatres' top military secrets for months, was disclosed with the capture of a giant professional political kidnaper, Lt. Col. Otto Skorzeny.

Maj. Stephen A. Stone, Jr., reported missing in action when he failed to return from a flight over Austria, in February, returned to military control, his parents Mr. and Mrs. Stephen A. Stone, Salem, were notified.

#### 25 Years Ago

May 15, 1930  
In Berlin Max Valier, German pioneer in experiment and research with rocket motors, was injured fatally while working on a model of a new liquid oxygen rocket.

#### 40 Years Ago

May 15, 1915  
An interesting meeting was held by the parent-teacher circle of the Lincoln school. Mrs. Luther Chapin, president of the association, presided. Taking part in the program were: Macyl Hunter, Ruth Jones and Mabel Marcus.

On Court Street from front to Cottage the Browning Amusement concern put up its tents, the attractions being part of the Moose carnival.

All England was ringing with the name of Miss Muriel Thompson, British nurse with the Belgian soldiers, who had been decorated by King Albert with the order of Leopold. She went into the trenches under the fire of German guns and carried off wounded Belgian soldiers.

## Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS  
THE HERO OF SAINT ROGER. By Jerrald Tickell. Doubleday.

The little Caribbean island of Saint Roger longs desperately for the return of tourists scared off by a hurricane, and hard-headed local businessmen come up with a scheme: Lure them back with a tale of a dead hero and, in the flesh, the very pretty girl supposed to have been his fiancée. Prefect Jules Latour has mighty little difficulty finding in Paris the girl for the principal role. The synthetic hero is made up of Jacques de Robot, a long-vanished island ne'er-do-well. Paris news photographers do right by red-head Gabrielle, and British, Russian and American government hasten to claim a piece of Jacques for their honor rolls.

Though the story turns a bit ticklish at the end, when Tickell has one more hero than we counted on, it's otherwise a bright vacation-piece from a popular wintertime vacation land.

## 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.)

### School Taxes

To the Editor:

For the sixth year straight running the people of the Marion County Rural School District (so-called) have voted down the part of their budget outside the 6 per cent limitation. This should convince our tax equalization friends that we do not for one moment accept the idea that the property tax levy should be uniform regardless of the income of the taxpayer or of the services provided by the local school.

We want local control of our schools and should be willing to raise half of our budget by local taxes. But the property tax is most unfair in a district, or county, where there are many people with adequate income and little taxable property and where there are also many people with inadequate income but much taxable property.

The local district should be allowed to collect half of their local tax from income and half from property. The county could do the same. We in Oregon could have it that way if we would. A state fund from income alone or from income and sales could provide half the operating costs of all our schools and also give substantial aid to any districts unable to provide housing.

More money for schools is a must. Anyone know how to "bell the cat"? Will we keep on asking our neighbors to pay our bills? Or will we do for ourselves according to our income instead of according to our property assessment?

Those responsible for the increased enrollment should be allowed to pay at least part of the increased costs.

W. R. Baker  
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Salem, Ore.

## No More Power Cuts Expected

PORTLAND (AP)—No more cuts in interruptible power need be expected through the summer, Bonneville Power administrator William A. Pearl has reported.

On Thursday night Bonneville engaged interruptible power cuts which were put into effect earlier this spring because of high electricity consumption and low water supplies.

Earlier this year interruptible power—dump power which is sold to aluminum companies—was reduced 75 per cent.

Warmer weather has improved the situation, reducing electricity consumption and increasing stream flows, Pearl reported.

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