

The Oregon Statesman

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

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Half-Year Wage Guarantee

Ford Motor Co. has yielded to the powerful economic weapon of the United Auto Workers, the threat of a strike, which actually was closing in on the company's operations. Its concessions toward the union's demand for a guaranteed annual wage were, however, attended with concessions by the union. The "annual" guarantee is reduced to "semi-annual" and the amount is only to supplement unemployment compensation and bring the allowance for the worker to 60-65 per cent of his regular take-home pay. With other new contract provisions the total cost to the company will run to about 20 cents an hour, and Walter Reuther can exult in gaining what he calls the "largest economic package we've ever negotiated." General Motors is expected to do as well, and Chrysler will have to follow suit. What concerns managers of other industries is how they will be affected by this rise to a new plateau in employment compensation.

The pattern which has been evolved resembles closely that worked out for worker pensions. Usually this was in the form of a supplement to annuities under federal social security. What is happening is that unions are forcing employers to contribute to the support of their own employees who are laid off or retired. This is hailed as a boon to workers, but to the degree that it forces price inflation its values are reduced, just as annuities now suffer from the reduced purchasing power of their dollar.

This new condition of employment will make corporation managers work hard to sustain even employment through the year. There will be less temptation to regard labor as a commodity to be turned on or shut off at will. Fear of taking on extra costs when consumer demand falls off and forces curtailment may, however, discourage corporate expansion which is the source for increase in employment. Gains of employed persons may be cancelled by losses in employment to others.

The antidote to inflation arising from these bulging "economic packages" is technological improvement which is passing under the new name of automation. It has great potential in the automotive industries; in fact it has already arrived there in some divisions of work. The general outlook, however, is for a progressive though not rapid increase in prices for goods and services, which may at any time culminate in a buyers' strike and an economic recession.

Plans are going forward for a tunnel under Mount Blanc in Switzerland to provide a motor road from France to Italy. Now there are numerous tunnels in the Alps for railroad use, the most famous being the Simplon tunnel built around the turn of the century at a cost of \$21 million with a second tunnel completed in 1921. A lot of progress has been made in getting over or through the Alps since Hannibal had such a time moving his army and elephants over the mountains early in the third century, B. C.

A state commission is studying, with the aid of Stanford Research Institute, the celebration of Oregon's centennial in 1959. The anniversary should be celebrated, but not with a "World's Fair." The admission of Oregon to the Union was hardly of global importance.

Rose Festival Week

Portland's Rose Festival week was ushered in with generous smiles from the sun. If he will keep on smiling the week should be a glorious one, in spite of the lack of roses whose blooming has been retarded. There may even be enough roses by the last of the week for a very respectable showing of the flowers for which Portland is famous.

The affair is of regional importance and merits the generous attendance from all over the Northwest. The parades, the shows are always colorful and entertaining. Salem, which is entering no float in the parade, should show its interest by attendance at the various events.

Minimum Wage

The Senate passed a bill to increase the minimum wage paid in establishments engaged in interstate commerce from 75c an hour to \$1.00. The administration had recommended a boost to 90c an hour. The bill now will be considered by the House Labor committee where efforts will be made to reduce the Senate figure. Organized labor has been asking for a \$1.25 hourly rate.

One factor which helped push through the \$1 per hour figure in the Senate is concern of Northern communities over flight of mills to low-wage sections of the South. In the case of textiles, however, the "horse" has already been stolen.

Hallelujah!

From Bob Frazier's "In One Ear" column, Eugene Register-Guard:

A Democrat returning from a journey to the East reports on his visit to Dick Neuberger's GHQ in the Senate Office Bldg. Says he:

"Regular madhouse. Everybody works and works. They don't know exactly what it is they're doing, but they're working at it and each one is sure he's doing good. So much good you never saw getting done before. Everybody enthusiastic and loyal and dedicated. It reminded me of a day coach full of Do-Gooders, bound straight for Heaven."

We don't know what algebraic formula is used but it appears that if the wind is more than 4.473 miles an hour no new track records are allowed. Therefore, the 100-yard dash 9.1-second mark recorded Saturday by Bobby Morrow of Abilene Christian (Texas) won't count. Neither did the same time made by Mel Patton of Southern California six years ago, and for the same reason. Patton, however, has the satisfaction of holding the present world's record of 9.3 seconds. Tomorrow doesn't. But one of these days someone is going to crack that 9-second goal. After all, the 4-minute mile was once thought impossible, too.

Senator Dellmore Lessard was elected state senator from Multnomah county in the Democrat landslide of 1935. He was no new dealer, however. In fact just before the war he was an Oregon representative for "America First," the super-patriot isolationist group that wanted to avoid getting involved in Europe's war. Death came to him when in representing a client he sought to obtain for him custody of a son, and the mother shot him down.

Communist China seems to have lost its allure for another of the renegades who refused repatriation after the Korean War. Otho B. Bell, a former army corporal, has written his wife in Olympia that he wants to get out and come home. If he is really fed up with Communism and ready to take his medicine as a deserter then he might be readmitted, if only for the sake of his wife and four-year-old daughter. Otherwise, having made his bed he should be left to lie in it.

A new club is proposed, the "Undo It Yourself" club. This writer could qualify as charter member.

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"I have principles, sir... I'd rather not work than be constantly complaining about wages, hours and working conditions..."

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1.)

non-navigable waters in arid or semi-arid lands in the public domain. Previous decisions of the high court have nibbled away at state control on waters for power use. So far it has not approved federal invasion of state rights in water for reclamation, which were guaranteed to the states in the act of 1902. But the danger has been present that by a sequence of decisions the states might lose these rights too. State Engineer Lewis Stanley is fearful that the decision Monday will be "a serious blow to control of water rights of Western states." His fears are well grounded though I think the court will continue to respect state administration of water for irrigation.

It has seemed to me that the fishery interests greatly exaggerated the damage to salmon and trout fisheries as a result of dams on the gorge section of the Deschutes. The river has never been an important stream in salmon propagation. The stretch of river to be embraced in the pool has been quite inaccessible to fishermen. It may very well be that roads needed for dam construction will open up the reservoir to sport fishing and attract more fishermen, as has been true with Detroit Lake on the Santiam River.

Oregon now has better ma-

Time Flies

FROM STATESMAN FILES

10 Years Ago

June 7, 1945

Oregon's program of integrating social hygiene education in school courses, and the cooperation of civic groups in such education, placed this state in a top-ranking position of commonwealths working along similar lines, Dr. Lester Kirkendall said.

Combat casualties for the armed forces during World War II rose to 1,012,049 including 895,834 for the army in all theaters through V-E Day. The navy accounted for 116,215 of the total.

Earl B. Day, member of the State Tax Commission since 1941, filed his resignation. He was to return to Medford, where he owned a large ranch and had other business interests.

25 Years Ago

June 7, 1930

Strawberries were getting bigger and better. Last week a man brought in a box which was filled by 11 berries. This record was beaten when A. A. Withers who resided in Eola Hills brought in several boxes and each was filled with nine big Marshall berries.

Earle Sande, widely known jockey, was cut about the face in an automobile accident in Jamaica, Queens. His car collided with another automobile.

Milton James, president of the junior class at the Salem High, was selected head usher at the annual commencement exercises of the Senior High school to be held at the Elsinore theater.

40 Years Ago

June 7, 1915

Hibbard camp, United Spanish War Veterans, met and elected officers, chose delegates to the department encampment at Portland and backed Major Carl Abrams, a member of the Salem camp, for department command.

The third child of Mr. and Mrs. Frederic D. Thielens was christened at St. Paul's Episcopal church, the occasion also being the ninth wedding anniversary of the parents. An informal dinner party was held at the home of the grandmother, Mrs. Ada Strong.

With a team average of 197, Company M, of this city, won the silver cup in the annual trophy match of the third battalion. Competing companies were K of Corvallis and L of Dallas, the latter the winner of the cup last year.

chinery for handling controversies such as that arising over Pelton Dam. The newly authorized Natural Resources Board will have responsibility in weighing claims for competitive uses of surface waters. It will of course be guided by state law and by decisions of state and federal courts, and this Pelton case decision does set a guidepost as far as hydroelectric power generation is concerned. The more times we can settle these issues through the state's own machinery and the fewer times resort is had to federal courts the safer our state control of waters will be. The board soon to be appointed can perform a valuable service in this respect.

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.)

LICENSE FOR CATS

Your editorial reprinted in the Eugene Register-Guard regarding the meadow lark interested me. I live in the country four miles out of Cottage Grove on acreage. Four years ago there were lots of larks nesting on my place, and now you hardly see or hear one any more. I think the cause is cats. They prowls nights and as larks nest on the ground they are caught and destroyed. A lark had a nest and five eggs in my strawberry patch, and later I saw the lark's feathers close by.

There ought to be a law passed and enforced to make people pay \$10 license fee per head on cats.

E. B. LAWSON,
RFD One, Box 483,
Cottage Grove, Ore.

Garden Council To Buy Sprayer For Salem Parks

The Salem Garden Council Monday agreed to buy a power sprayer for the Salem park system and voted to sponsor a spring flower show in 1956, it was announced by Al Lindbeck, council president.

The flower show committee will be comprised of one member from each of the 13 garden clubs which make up the council. At Monday's meeting representatives from 10 of the clubs were in attendance.

Dizziest Bridegroom Passes Out at Altar

GLASGOW, Scotland (UP)—Bridgroom Hawthorne Stewart was so nervous about his wedding Saturday that he fainted once at the altar and three times at the reception.

"Dizziest day of my life," the 24-year-old insurance clerk said.

Public Records

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS

Robert Eric Watkins, 22, U. S. Navy, Erie, Colo., and Ina Jean Thornton, 23, at home, Brooks, Ore.
Clyde Lee Head, 32, teacher, and Treva Jo Harden, 21, teacher, both Monmouth.
Norman Olan Dersvald, 24, student, Portland, and Carol Isabelle Emerson, 22, teacher, Sandy, Ore.

Robert Kenneth Campbell, 28, student, and Alecia Catharine Gilbert, 23, laboratory technician, both Seattle, Wash.
Rodney A. Jipp, 21, student, 5085 Sunnyview Ave., and Donna Loraine Senke, 20, cannery worker, 1160 Saginaw St., both Salem.

CIRCUIT COURT

Ralph S. and Ruby M. DeWeese vs. Willamette Valley Roof Co., The Ruberoid Co. and Good Housekeeping: Plaintiff's motion for nonsuit with respect to Ruberoid Co. and Good Housekeeping allowed.

State vs. Henry Hames Herrera: Imposition of sentence on charge of forgery suspended; placed on two years' probation.
Clifford Daugherty vs. Clarence T. Gladden, Oregon State Penitentiary Warden: Plaintiff remanded to custody of warden pending further court order.

Mary Sawyer Marty vs. Safeway Stores Inc.: Time for filing bill of exceptions on appeal and filing transcript on appeal extended to July 10.

State vs. Dennis Kendall O'Hara: Defendant waived preliminary hearing on charge of non-support; bound over to grand jury.

Lorene Tucker vs. Jesse A. Tucker: Plaintiff seeks divorce charging cruel and inhuman treatment; asks custody of two minor children and \$50 monthly support. Married at Fort Smith, Ark., in 1948.

PROBATE COURT

William J. Bishop estate: Order fixing time for final account hearing set for July 5, 10 a.m.
Walter L. McDougal estate: Final account approved and Isabel G. McDougal discharged as administratrix as requested in petition.

Burglars Enter Salem Golf Club

Marion County Sheriff's deputies were investigating a weekend break-in at the Salem Golf Club on South River Road.

The break-in, which was reported Sunday, netted intruders about \$15 in cash and a quantity of beer. Entry was gained by removing a window from the main building.

ESCAPEE STILL OUT

Robert Bob, 47-year-old Indian who walked away Sunday from a prison annex work gang, still remained at large Monday, Guard Captain Lloyd Francis reported. Bob, serving a life sentence for second-degree murder, had been returned to the penitentiary once as a parole violator.

Fred Smith, 45, Succumbs

Fred Griffith Smith, 45, died Monday of a heart attack while working near Buell in Polk County. Smith, who had lived in the Salem area most of his life, lived in the Rosedale district.

He was born May 12, 1910 at Livermore, Calif., and moved here with his family as a child. He attended Salem schools and was a truck driver for Salem Navigation Company. He was working near Buell because of the truck strike.

Smith is survived by his wife, Edythe Smith, Salem; seven daughters, Freda Doyle, Eugene; Agnes Fredericks, Dallas; Frances Gains, San Diego, Calif.; Mabel Smith, Mary Smith, Carol Smith, Sharon Smith, all of Salem; one brother, L. S. Smith, Salem; five sisters, Mrs. M. Ankeny, Mrs. Jean Shields, Della Mack and Mrs. Charlotte Enslin, all of Salem; Lois Casebeer, Arlington, Wash., and four grandchildren.

Funeral services will be Thursday at 1:30 p.m. at the W. T. Rigdon chapel with the Rev. Carl Miller officiating. Burial will be at City View Cemetery.

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Mysterious Polio Virus, Not Mrs. Hobby, Blamed for Vaccination Confusion, Delay

By STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON—In all fairness, it is time somebody spoke up for Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, beleaguered Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

It is fashionable nowadays to beat Mrs. Hobby over the head, editorially and oratorically, as solely responsible for the confusions and delays in the polio vaccine program. Adlai Stevenson, who knows a good issue when he sees one, took up the cudgels the other day when he said that he "didn't think it required any special clairvoyance to estimate the demand for the vaccine, the supply and the hazards of production."

Yet the truth is that the blame really rests far less on Mrs. Hobby than on a mysterious polio virus, which for reasons yet unexplained refused to die when it should have died, Stevenson to the contrary, it would have required clairvoyance of a remarkably high order to foresee this particular hazard.

The facts are simple enough. On April 12th, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis announced the success of the field tests of the Salk vaccine. On the same day, Mrs. Hobby licensed six manufacturers to distribute the vaccine, and the polio foundation went ahead with its free vaccination program for all first and second grade children.

Mrs. Hobby has been much criticized by hindsight for "not having a distribution plan ready." In fact, a distribution plan was ready—the polio foundation's program for vaccinating first and second graders, which is still incomplete,

and which will use all available vaccine until it is complete. It never occurred to anyone in Mrs. Hobby's department to move in and take over the foundation's program, simply because there was no visible need whatsoever for doing so.

What, then, really went wrong?

What went wrong was virus that refused to die. On April 27th, the Surgeon General, Dr. Scheele, received reports of six cases of polio among children who had received vaccine from the Cutter Laboratories in California. The polio had apparently resulted from live virus in the vaccine. Dr. Scheele immediately asked Cutter to withdraw all its vaccine.

The scientists of the Public Health Service then descended on the Cutter Laboratories to try to determine why the virus had not died. And even now, they do not really know for certain.

Making the Salk vaccine is a tricky business. To put it in the simplest and most unscientific terms, the vaccine has to be strong but not too strong. It must be treated with formaldehyde for a certain length of time in order to make sure that no killing polio virus remains. But it cannot be immersed too long, or the immunizing effect is lost.

A standard operating procedure—the best the scientists of the Public Health Service could formulate at the time— for achieving this life-and-death balance, had been laid down for all six laboratories, including the Cutter Laboratories. And even now, the scientists have been unable to determine why the polio virus survived in the Cutter vaccine. It should have died.

It was the tragic incident of

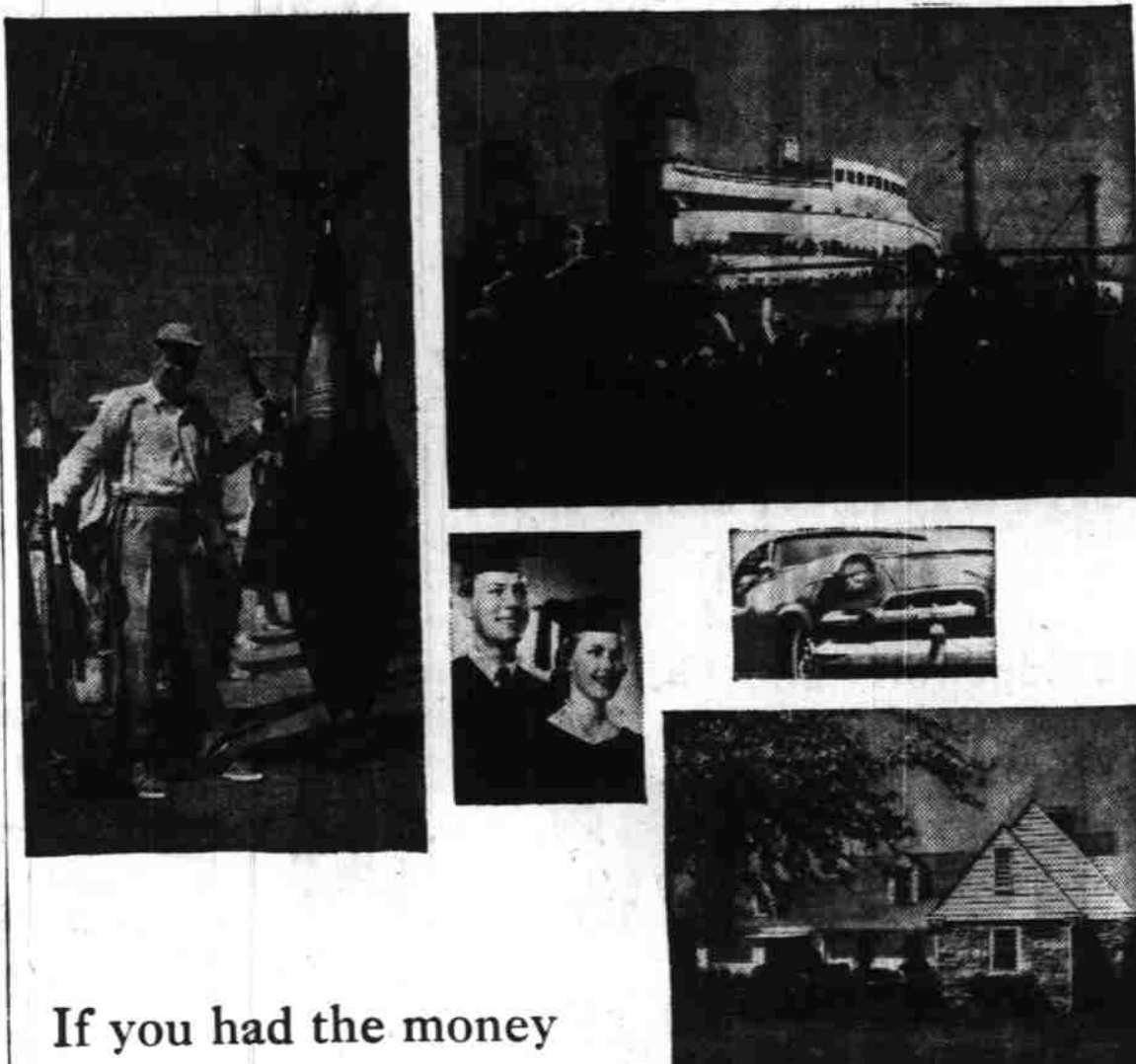
the Cutter vaccine that threw the whole polio program into turmoil. The stubborn virus has also come rather close to destroying the reputation of the able Mrs. Hobby.

The stubborn virus is not the whole story, of course. The polio foundation is dependent on public contributions, and it has the usual public relations setup of such foundations. Thus the success of the Salk vaccine was announced with the maximum of ballyhoo (something Mrs. Hobby had no control over) and the impression got abroad that the scourge of polio had been conquered completely overnight. In fact, of course, the vaccine is only partially effective, and supplies were unavoidably limited.

The press relations of Mrs. Hobby's department are also even more stupidly handled than most, and Mrs. Hobby's famous statement that "no one could have foreseen" the demand for the vaccine was no help. Perhaps the worst fault of all was the failure to explain, simply and understandably, that using the vaccine could in rare cases be dangerous—which is still true—but that on balance its use vastly increases a child's chance of avoiding the terrible disease.

Any such admission it was thought, would scare the living daylight out of the American people, and thus destroy the value of the life-saving Salk vaccine. Lack of confidence in the American people's common sense is a besetting sin of this Administration. Yet in fairness it is hard to understand how Mrs. Hobby, clairvoyant or not, could have foreseen what some of the best scientists in the country did not foresee—and cannot wholly understand, even now that it has happened.

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