

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
From First Statesman, March 23, 1851

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Church-State Conflict in Argentina

The conflict between church and state in Argentina sounds like an echo from the past. Some of the historical battles of the middle ages and early modern period raged between kings and bishops. Most noteworthy was that of Henry IV of Germany who made lay appointments to several bishoprics and drew off himself excommunication by the Catholic church. In January, 1077 he stood barefoot in the snow doing penance for three days before Pope Gregory VII, who was a guest in the castle, would grant absolution. Now word from the Vatican is that President Peron of Argentina has been excommunicated. It remains to be seen whether he will seek forgiveness and reinstatement as a good Catholic in which faith he was reared.

In Buenos Aires the riots between those loyal to the church and Peron's police and partisans which broke out when the Corpus Christi parade was held Sunday in defiance of a government ban were followed by rebel air raids on Thursday. Government spokesmen claim the army and air force are loyal to Peron, and that the air raids come from naval forces. Just what the outcome will be is hard to predict. Revolutions and counter-revolution have been familiar occurrences in Latin American countries. Usually the decision rests with the army. As long as it remains loyal to the regime the rebels are not likely to win. When it turns against the chief of state, the latter starts running for the nearest exit—a seaport in the old days, an airport now.

Peron is a dictator, and like most dictators brooks no interference. Some, however, make their peace with the church. Mussolini did in Italy, and Franco in Spain and Salazar in Portugal have done the same. In fact the loyalty of Franco and Salazar to the church is staunch and has in turn drawn support from the church. Peron has offended the church and now proposes to repeal the constitutional provision making the Catholic church official in the nation. Clergy have resisted and been subjected to police harassment. Two prelates were bundled aboard planes and deported by the police.

The trend has been toward separation of church and state and toward freedom of worship (save in Communist countries). Even where there are established churches a modus vivendi has been worked out which keeps each authority pretty much to its own sphere and allows nonconformists to worship as they will. Eventually some sort of truce will come to Argentina. Both church and state will survive. Perhaps each will grow stronger in independence and devotion to its own responsibilities. Strong anti-clerical movements have arisen in Catholic countries which at times have led to reprisals against the church, for example in France. Adjustments usually follow and state and church continue to function.

Most every lawn is getting the ministry of a power mower these days—including that at the state prison grounds. Labor saving has caught up with the pen inmates.

Big 4 Conference May Not Be 'At Summit' Unless Party Boss Khrushchev Comes

By CHARLES M. McCANN
United Press Staff Correspondent
It looks as if the Big Four meeting to be held in Geneva will not be a "conference at the summit."
Premier Nikita A. Khrushchev, as the head of the Soviet government, will lead the Russian delegation officially.

As of now, however, it is uncertain whether Nikita Khrushchev, the first secretary of the Communist Party, will even be there.

If Khrushchev goes to Geneva without Khrushchev it will be a meeting of heads of government all right, but it will not be the "conference at the summit" which has so long been discussed.

If there is any real "summit" in the Kremlin right now—which is somewhat doubtful—it is Khrushchev.

Russia has accepted the Allied proposal for a four-day meeting—July 18 through July 21 inclusive. It is not proposed that the heads of the four governments shall make any decisions on world problems. They are to hold an exchange of views and define issues on which the Big Four foreign ministers will negotiate afterward.

But Bulganin is unlikely to be able even to engage in any authoritative "exchange of views" unless Khrushchev is at his elbow.

When Khrushchev and Bulganin went to Belgrade to see President Tito of Yugoslavia, Khrushchev went off of his way to show he was the head man on the Russian side.

There is no real comparison, of course, between the Belgrade and Geneva meetings.

The Soviet leaders went to Belgrade to see a man who was not only head of his government but leader of his own Communist Party.

If looked then, however, as if Khrushchev certainly would be the real No. 1 delegate at any Big Four conference—not officially but actually.

But Khrushchev won himself a lot of bad publicity in Belgrade by his lack of tact and his loose talk.

That made it seem questionable whether he would attend the Big Four meeting even as the power behind the scenes.

Multitied Pinballs

Portland's pinball machines seem to have amazing powers of survival. Away back in the terms of Dorothy McCullough Lee as mayor of Portland the commission adopted an ordinance to prohibit operation of such machines. Proprietors of the devices fought the ordinance through all the courts in the land. All the time raking in coins while the litigation dragged. Finally the U. S. Supreme Court kicked out their case, the Oregon Supreme Court passed down the mandate for putting them out of business. Even then the city police showed they had lead in their boots for they let the machines run for a week or ten days longer (until after the Rose Festival crowds had been milked). Then when they finally moved to confiscate the machines the amusement interests ran to court to get an injunction against their removal. In the interval they had closed the slot, though the machines were continuing to operate. The court attack is on the basis that the machines are no longer coin-in-the-slot machines though the prohibition is not limited to slot machines. Presumably the interests will carry this battle through the courts, all the while raking in the shekels from the operation.

What the pinball people want of course is a change at the city hall which will give a repeal of the ordinance. They got one vote when Fred Peterson was elected over Dorothy Lee. If anything should discredit them it is this brazen defiance of a city ordinance. Some way should be found to put the machines out of business and then let litigation proceed. Commissioner Earl wants to amend the law to prevent any escape—but that might start a fresh line of lawsuits.

'Operation Alert'

The President and cabinet members and top government officials departed from Washington Wednesday and set up shop in secluded places as an experiment of maintaining government operations in the event of bombing. They didn't take along their secretaries (female), so must have taken along some card decks to set up a few poker games when the business of operating away from home base got dull.

Once the evacuation of the national capital was real. That was when the British seized Washington and burned public buildings. The Madisons escaped to Virginia, but Dolly Madison, wife of the president, took with her a Gilbert Stuart portrait of George Washington. General Early's men got close to Washington during the Civil War, but after the government clerks were mobilized to man trenches hurriedly thrown up the Confederate raid was driven back.

We hope this practice run will not have to be repeated under a genuine threat; but for the moment the big battle is, as it has been most of the time, to keep the termites from boring from within and eating away the substance of the country.

Showing Off Our Trees

That was a splendid idea of the Oregon Junior Chamber of Commerce to send a cross section of a huge Oregon Douglas fir log on a tour of the East. This paper had a picture of it being viewed in Rockefeller Center, New York City, the other morning. The truck has taken it on to Washington where it has attracted more attention. It will be shown at Richmond and again at Charlotte, N. C. and finally at Atlanta, Ga., during the national Jaycee convention.

Few people in the East and South get out to the Pacific Northwest or to California where the big trees grow. It will give them quite a thrill to see a tree which sprouted from seed hundreds of years ago. The Jaycee expedition conducted by Gerry Rucker of Portland and Wayne McCall of Cottage Grove is an original idea that really will acquaint folk in other parts of the nation with Oregon's chief resource, its timber and timber growing capacity.

Time Flies:

From The Statesman Files

10 Years Ago

June 17, 1945

Salem was formally on record favoring the city acquisition of the remaining 43 acres of Bush pasture at a cost of \$125,000. The Bush pasture project carried in six wards and lost in one—number 5, in North Salem.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower brought "the greatest moment in his life" his homecoming, to an official close in a press conference and denied with utmost vigor that he had any idea of going into politics.

The National Battery company of St. Paul, Minn., obtained an option on four acres of property adjoining the S.P. tracks in West Salem and contemplated the construction of a new manufacturing unit.

25 Years Ago

June 17, 1930

Miss Josephine Albert and Wendell Robinson, winners of the Atwater-Kent audition contest recently held, were to compete in the state contest at Portland in the fall.

Three Salem women, Maye Marinelli, Myrtle Lynch and Martha Jean Dixon, were given the leading roles in the first

Willamette valley motion picture, to be filmed here. Announcement of the members of the cast for the valley picture, "The Purple Flood," was made at the close of the American Legion-Dagmar Pictures film frolic.

For the first time in history, Salem school board had a woman member, citizens giving Mrs. Roy Keene the second highest vote in the annual school election. Dr. H. H. Olinger, incumbent, received the highest individual vote.

40 Years Ago

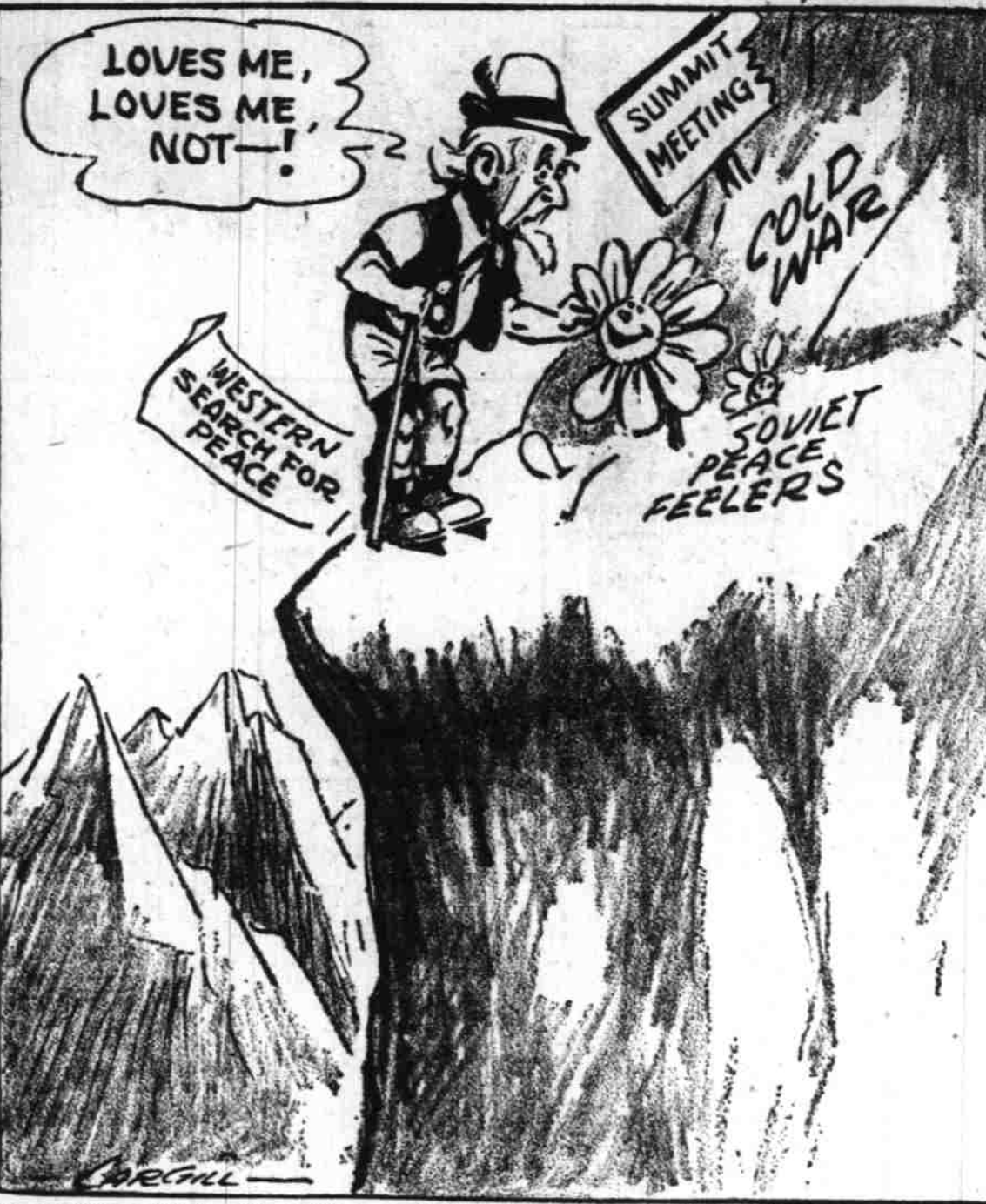
June 17, 1915

More than five million feet of Oregon spruce clears were sent to nations of Europe within the last three months for use in making military aeroplanes, according to records of the lumber association.

Robert Lansing, counselor of the department of state, succeeded Secretary William J. Bryan (recently resigned) in charge of diplomatic affairs of the United States. Mr. Lansing was born in Watertown, N. Y., in 1864.

Ben Olcott, Secretary of State and custodian of the capitol grounds had four cluster lights placed along 12th street by the Supreme Court building.

FLOWERS THAT BLOOM IN THE SPRING, TRA LA!



IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1.)

50 per cent and will be given only to farmers who do not exceed their acreage allotments. It is not an easy choice to make. Acceptance means a price guarantee of 76 per cent of parity but wheat production only on a little over 60 per cent of former acreage. Rejection and growing wheat on all one's acres means taking the market price, whatever that may be, but surely considerably under the government support figure.

The root of the wheat problem is trying to square economics with politics and sociology. American (and Canadian, for that matter) growers have been raising more wheat than they can dispose of at what they regard as compensatory prices. Our government has stepped in to temper economic law at the expense of the general treasury. The justification was that such an important segment of agriculture as wheat growing (and that of five other basic crops) should not be allowed to go to ruin by the harsh price-fixing of the marketplace. Parity was invoked during New Deal days when farmers (as well as others) were in the trough of the depression. It was kept alive even through war years when demand took prices above parity, and was continued after the war—Secretary Brannan did not apply acreage controls to limit production. Recovery following the war resulted in marked increase in world production of wheat and other foods. American production remained around a billion bushels a year. Surpluses in government hands mounted until now the wheat in storage runs around a billion bushels, well over a year's requirements for food and seed and normal export.

The crop this year will add to the surplus, in spite of the heavy cut in acreage and in spite of very adverse weather in the Southwest plains country. The June crop forecast is for 845,215,000 bushels of wheat, which compares with 969,781,000 for 1954 and a ten-year average of 1,154,073,000 bu. This reduced amount is considerably in excess of normal requirements for the United States, so the prospect is for some addition to wheat stores.

The real problem is disposal of the crop surpluses. As of March 31st last the Commodity Credit Corporation had a total investment in stocks and loans.

on stocks not yet taken over \$7.3 billion. Its losses and expenses for the first nine months of the fiscal year amounted to \$507 million. Storage costs alone run to about \$1 million a day.

Strenuous efforts have been made to get rid of the surplus stocks. The law prevents their sale on the domestic market for less than 5 per cent above current support prices plus reasonable carrying charges. That means there is no sale there. Some commodities such as butter, cheese, have been used on school lunch programs or made as grants to welfare institutions. There is authority for disposing of surpluses to foreign countries, but that draws severe criticism from friendly governments. If we dump our wheat, other exporting countries complain that we are injuring their economy. Last fall it was proposed that we export some of our rice surplus to non-Communist Asiatic countries. That brought immediate protest from Burma, a rice-exporting country, one of whose officials called it the "kiss of death" to Burma.

So long as huge accumulations of wheat and other crops remain in storage, they overhang the market and prevent a price rise. It looks as though it would take years, barring the unwanted outbreak of war, to work them into consumption. Meantime we have not been reducing but increasing the wheat surplus. (Benson's butter deal has worked out better, with considerable working off of stocks.)

Northwest wheat growers have proposed a two-price system on wheat marketing. I will discuss that and other wheat surplus problems tomorrow.

Revolution in Argentina Long Expected

By J. M. ROBERTS
Associated Press News Analyst

Students of Latin-American affairs have been wondering for years just when Argentina would "blow."

First they thought it would come when Dictator Peron revolutionized the country's economy, clamping down on the wealthy cattle breeders, planters, business men and industrialists.

He has always made his pitch to labor, taking advantage of discontent over low wages, which he ordered raised, and of anti-clericalism among the workers.

But, with the aid of his late wife Evita, who created numerous government-financed foundations and the like to aid the working class, he beat off the counterattack of what he called the oligarchy. The clincher came when he proclaimed a government monopoly for exports. Under this plan, he fixed prices for the nation's products lower than those of world markets and the government pocketed the difference.

Argentina had ruffled the feathers of the United States during the war with a soft attitude toward Nazi Germany, and followed through after the war with a similar attitude toward Communist Russia. There were times when an open break appeared imminent.

About this time evidence began to appear that Peron was working on a grandiose scheme to take both political and economic hegemony over all South America, or at least those countries which were close neighbors of Argentina and not tied so tightly to the United States.

Then he lost the great appeal Evita had for the public through her death. Predictions that he wouldn't last long after that were rife.

His opponents were encouraged to attempt the organization of a new political party, closely akin to the heavily Catholic Christian-Democratic parties of Europe, but with distinct socialist tinges. The Communists, although Peron pretends to despise them as of no importance in Argentina, attempted to infiltrate this movement, though not welcomed by Catholic elements.

The dispute with the church itself, resulting in deportation of its chief prelates from Buenos Aires, in Peron's excommunication from the church, and the military revolt which began Thursday, apparently grew out of Peron's rage at the attempt to form the new party, although no formal connection between it and the church itself has been established.

First reports of the upheaval were too vague to give any insight on the actual forces at work. The keystone is the army which apparently is remaining loyal to Peron.

Every normal working day more than 1,000,000 tons of revenue-earning freight is carried on British railways by 20,000 freight trains. This is a substantial increase over prewar records.

Mrs. Smith Enters Plea Of Innocent

PORTLAND (AP)—Mrs. Marjorie Smith, 34, accused of plotting the bomb death of her husband, attorney Kermith Smith, 24, in April, pleaded innocent in circuit court Thursday.

Her plea previously had been delayed as her attorneys attacked a grand jury first-degree murder indictment against her. Judge Charles W. Redding overruled their demurrer.

Also under indictment is Victor Laurence Wolf, 45, who is accused of planting the fatal bomb in Smith's car. Wolf has said he planted the bomb out of love for Mrs. Smith, and blamed her for hatching the plot.

The trial is expected in the September term of court. No date yet has been set.

Safety Awards Go to Airlines

CHICAGO (AP)—The national safety council announced Thursday 39 U. S. airlines have won the council's aviation safety award.

The award is for going through 1954 without a passenger or crew fatality in air accidents.

They included West Coast Airlines, Northwest Airlines, Pan American World Airways and United Airlines.

Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I emptied out the contents of the basket, but wasn't able to find the missing coin—nowhere."

2. What is the correct pronunciation of "myrrh"?

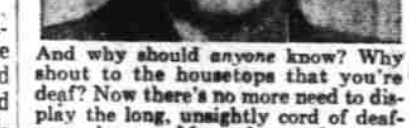
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Metaphor, mentholated, mendacious, metallic.

4. What does the word "vestige" mean?

5. What is a word beginning with ind that means "to secure against loss"?

ANSWERS
1. Omit "out" and "nowhere." 2. Pronounce as though spelled mir, u as in fur, 3. Met-lic. 4. A trace, mark, or visible sign left by something lost, perished, or no longer existent. "The judge said that the criminal had lost the last vestige of decency." 5. Indemnify.

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Airline Travel Aids Surprise

NORFOLK, Va. (AP)—Capt. Eugene Carlson, U. S. Coast Guard (ret.) paid a surprise visit to his son, Lt. Eugene Carlson Jr., in San Francisco. He found his son's apartment locked but learned from a friend that his son and family had departed four days earlier for Norfolk.

Captain Carlson boarded a commercial airliner and greeted his son upon the lieutenant's arrival in Norfolk.

Illegitimate Births Increase in Chicago

CHICAGO (UP)—Illegitimate births are on the increase in Chicago, according to the Illinois state public health director, Dr. Roland R. Cross.

Cross said that of 86,680 babies born in Chicago in 1954, 7,133, or 8.2 per cent, were illegitimate. In 1953 the illegitimacy rate was 7.6 per cent. It was 7 per cent in 1952 and 6.4 per cent in 1951.

Dr. O. K. Sagen of the state health department said one reason for the high illegitimacy rate in Chicago is that pregnant unmarried women often go to a large city to avoid notice.

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