

The Oregon Statesman

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

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Lower Press Standards

The Manchester Guardian, one of the great newspapers of the English-speaking world, recently celebrated its 100th anniversary as a daily. Two other papers in Britain passed the same milestone. They were the Telegraph of London and the Scotsman of Edinburgh. What occasioned their birth so close together was the repeal of the stamp duty in June, 1855 which made daily publication and circulation by mail feasible.

The Guardian took occasion to criticize other mass circulation dailies for lowering the standards of journalism. It wound up an editorial on the subject thus:

"It is permissible to wonder whether in spite of all the immense progress in technique, much of English journalism today is not losing the moral purpose that until recently it took for granted."

The London Times, much more venerable than the others mentioned, offered a similar criticism:

"The race for mammoth circulations has led in some cases to a disgraceful lowering of values. The baser instincts are being pandered to, not only in lasciviousness—the influence of this cannot be overrated—but in social attitudes and in conduct as well."

We in America are familiar with such complaints against our own press. However, we can report some progress. The day of the more lurid and sensational sheets has passed. Even the tabloids are a bit more sedate. The public got satiated with scandal and sensation until the demand for papers catering to the baser instincts the Times referred to, fell off.

While the press has done a certain amount of self-scrubbing, it still is subject to the criticism of the Guardian of losing "moral purpose." A great many papers today are chiefly purveyors of information with a measure of entertainment thrown in. They evade the responsibility of moral leadership. Now a newspaper can't be a tract and hold much of an audience. But neither should it be a blank as far as conviction goes, nor a laggard in expressing its conviction.

Fortunately for the British the Guardian keeps its "moral purpose" very much alive; and the Times is still an oracle to many. And America has a good many papers that are faithful to civic duty.

Flower Terminal

One of the special features of San Francisco through the years has been its flower stalls. They brighten the corners of the business section, bringing in color and life distinctive of California. Now we note that a wholesale flower market is to be built in the city this year. San Francisco is a major wholesale market for flowers and this new flower terminal is designed to give better service to growers and to florists. It will have 110,000 sq. ft. under roof.

The terminal, according to the story in the Chronicle, is to be built by three flower-growing associations. One represents white growers; one has members of Japanese descent; the third is the Chinese-American group. (Desegregation hasn't caught up with the flower growers). Each of these groups will have its own sales hall.

This flower market should prove an added tourist attraction for the city by the Golden Gate.

Premier U Nu Not Easing World Tension by Reviving Debate Over Red China Seat in U.N.

(For J. M. Roberts, AP News Analyst)

On a quest for relaxed East-West tensions, Burma's neutralist Prime Minister U Nu, has achieved an opposite effect by reviving the controversial issue of Communist China's admittance to the United Nations.

Before his arrival last week for a call on official Washington, U.S. authorities felt it to be known the former schoolteacher's bland, scholarly manner could be quite misleading.

These officials described him as a forceful, alert personality and said the impressions he got in the United States would carry weight, particularly in his quarter of the globe.

But it was hardly anticipated that the mild-appearing U Nu would touch off a highly vexatious diplomatic issue. At a New York news conference he divulged his "impression" that most U.S. authorities in Washington feel Red China's admittance to the U.N. is only a question of timing.

Coming as it did just before the Geneva summit conferences of the Big 4 later this month, U Nu's statement brought a flurry of inquiries. Diplomats, particularly from countries closely allied with the United States in Asia, feared they might be left holding an empty bag. Had there actually been a drift, they asked, toward a policy on Communist China?

From both Senate and House poured more questions and demands that the responsible U.S. officials referred to by U Nu be named.

The State Department said U.S. opposition to a U.N. seat for Red China is unchanged. The White House declared neither President Eisenhower nor Secretary of State Dulles had even so much as mentioned the seating question.

Indian diplomat V. K. Krishna Menon, who has been conducting India's campaign to relax East-West tensions, was taken aback. He told newsmen privately he does not consider the question of Red

Pentagon and Reserves

Rep. Thomson of Wyoming in testimony before the Senate committee on armed services, accused the career officers in the Army of keeping the nation's reserve program "dangerously weak." He complained also that the Army didn't call back into duty for the Korean War experienced young reserve officers in larger numbers because it would break up their "playhouse for promotion."

Despite the fact that Thomson is a war veteran himself, a combat infantry officer and military instructor, we question whether he is correct in blaming the Pentagon for the low state of the reserves. Congress itself has failed to respond to the repeated recommendations of the Army for establishing a stronger reserve system.

Then it was our recollection that reserve officers were called back to duty when the Korean trouble broke out in large numbers, frequently at great sacrifice. In fact the complaints that raised over their recall were loud and insistent, and did injury to the reserve program.

This pacific country (between wars) has a hard time maintaining its military establishment. Congress (and the people) persistently reject universal compulsory military training. The regular forces suffer from the continuing overturn due to failure to reenlist. The role of the National Guard has been kept uncertain through doubts of within the Pentagon where some generals wanted to do away with the Guard.

The pending bill attempts to straighten out the reserve system and make it more effective as an instrument of defense. What seems clear is that if the country is not to enforce universal military training it should have an adequate secondary line in being and in training so long as world conditions remain as parlous as they are.

Middle East Petroleum Output Increases

A United Nations report says that the Middle East produced 20 per cent of the world's petroleum in 1954. Eight years previous its output was only nine per cent of the total. With Iran back as a producer the percentage may continue to rise. In spite of heavy production further exploration has revealed larger reserves of petroleum in this oil-rich region. The present estimate is 12.5 billion tons, which is 240 per cent more than was reported in 1945.

Most of this Middle East development has been made by big U. S. oil companies. Standard of California for instance was, with Texas Company, a pioneer in the field. Other foreign oil companies have interests there too.

Petroleum products from this area are proving of great help in the economic growth of Asia and the Mediterranean countries which have been deficient in fuel resources. As marketing expands and equipment for use of oil and gasoline and kerosene is introduced this uplift may be accelerated. Meantime the abundance helps to prevent runaway prices on petroleum products.

Sen. Lyndon Johnson wasn't one you would suspect of having a bad heart. Tall and husky, he has never appeared nervous or excitable, or under high pressure. He is the most skilled floor leader since Charley McNary. As majority leader at this session he deserves a great deal of credit for the legislative program which has been developed. Republicans as well as Democrats hope for his speedy recovery from a heart affliction.

Rare these days is announcement that a government bureau is reducing its fee charged for a special service. But Director Short of the State Department of Agriculture, is doing just that. The fee charged for brand inspection is to be cut five cents, from 30c to 25c per head. That may not result in any reduction in the price of a T-bone steak, but it means an extra nickel in the stockman's pocket.

Time Flies:

10 Years Ago

July 8, 1945

Japan's vague peace feelers were brushed aside by Acting Secretary of State Joseph Grew with a sharp reminder that the United States was interested only in the enemy's unconditional surrender.

Maj. Allan G. Carson, Salem legislator, who was disclosed this week as the winner of the air medal for flying more than 100 combat hours on transport aircraft in the India-Burma theater of operations.

Directors of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company approved a contribution of \$85,000 to the National War Fund, Inc., according to an announcement by N. R. Powley, president.

25 Years Ago

July 8, 1930

The years completed another victory for John D. Rockefeller on his 91st birthday when he received a congratulatory message from his one-time bitter foe, "Mother" Jones, labor leader.

With the cutting of the price of gasoline to 15 cents a gallon late this afternoon, Salem deal-

From The Statesman Files

40 Years Ago

July 8, 1915

For nearly ten days southeastern Alaska suffered from excessive heat. The sun shined at this time of the year twenty-four out of the twenty-four, and the absence of the southeast winds caused the weather condition. Temperatures reached 100 degrees.

In compliment to Miss Helen Maurer and Harry C. Wiedmer, whose marriage was to be an event in the near future, a dinner party was given to a few intimate friends, with Oliver J. Myers as the host.

Miss Margaret Cosper left for San Francisco, to remain for a six weeks' vacation as the guest of Mrs. George Gray, Oregon's official hostess, in the state building at the Panama-Pacific exposition.

THAT OLD SWEETHEART OF MINE!



Comes the Dawn

More items for that crock full of legends you're keeping on Davy Crockett . . . A local store is now offering Davy Crockett bubble bath and advertising that the product possesses "the aroma of the old West." Great for kids who don't have an interesting odor of their own . . . McEwan's foto studio will, in exchange for a passle of bear meat, snap your small panther hunter decked out in a cook's coonskin cap, a shootin'-arn and a wide grin . . . And a long-removed relative of Davy's (a grinin' cousin probably) says that, contrary to the song Davy killed his bear at eight. And here we thought that line of the song went, " . . . killed IN a bar when he was only three . . ."

If you're aimin' for uranium these days you might put down your Geiger counter long enough to send for a booklet on uranium prospecting put out recently by the state Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. It describes likely areas for prospecting for uranium both in Oregon and in neighboring states. Also tells about instruments, mining regulations, methods of prospecting for uranium, etc. The Department of G & M is at 1069 State Office Bldg., Portland . . .

Den 9 of Liberty School Pack 18 will be guests Friday on the Red Dunning TV show (KOIN-TV-5 p.m.) . . . A group of Salem fishermen headed for the Valseltz area the other day intending to fish in the headwaters of the Siletz. Well, after climbing that long tortuous road from Falls City to Valseltz the anglers were told they could not fish there because of logging operations going on. Certainly nobody can quarrel with the regulations. But you'd think somebody could put up an explanatory sign just outside Falls City and save anglers that rough trip and permit them to go someplace else in time to fish. Wouldn't you? . . .

Here's a twist to the go-to-Alaska-and-get-rich-quick movement. Salem Mayor Robert White received a letter from a Tony Swanson, 18, of Juneau, Alaska. The lad is looking for a cattle ranch in this area where he can work for room and board and attend school during the winter. Says his parents were recently killed in an auto accident and he needs the job "very badly." All Mayor White could do was to answer that he knew of no such opportunity now, but added he'd keep trying . . .

Court street between High and Church is one of the most jay-walked blocks in town. What with attorneys and courthouse patrons dashing across to the courthouse—and other citizens dashing just as speedily over in the other direction to the green-front grocery. Now, a big question with a group of lawyers living on the north side of the street is this: When traffic lights are placed at Court and Church streets, will it make the jaywalking cheese more binding? There are already lights at Court and High. If the new ones go in, it will mean that street-crossers will be jaywalking between two lights—which, according to persistent rumor, is supposed to make the jaywalker double indemnified or something like that . . .

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



Safety Valve Area Reserve

Unit to Train At Ft. Lawton

(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. Letters must be signed.)

To the Editor:
Does your correspondent, Lovell, mean to compare Senators George and Morse or to contrast them? Senator George has long been outstanding and valuable and just now is making a bipartisan foreign policy very effective. Can Senator Morse work in harmony with any Government Department or with any person, except perhaps with Harry Bridges?

J. M. Campbell
Dallas, Ore.

Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "There's only three apples in the basket, and I don't know if I can eat them." 2. What is the correct pronunciation of "infamous"? 3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Impeachable, despicable, coercible, intelligible. 4. What does the word "paragon" mean? 5. What is a word beginning with ho that means "respect or reverence"?

ANSWERS

1. Say, "There are only three apples," and, "I don't know whether I can eat them." 2. Accent first syllable, not the second. 3. Intelligible. 4. A model; a type of perfection; as, "a paragon of beauty." 5. Homage.

State Jobless Payments Top \$20 Million

Unemployment compensation benefits in Oregon totaled \$20,406,000 in the year ended July 1, the third highest on record.

But the number of persons looking for work has dropped to 22,400, which is the lowest in nearly two years.

The unemployment compensation commission also announced that the number of weekly claimants for benefits has fallen below 8,000 for the first time in three years.

Every local office of the commission except Baker reports fewer unemployed persons than there were a year ago. There were 38,900 unemployed a year ago.

Benefits paid in June totaled \$790,199, the lowest June figure since 1952.

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