

The Oregon Statesman

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

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Labor and Politics

Political parties in Oregon hold no conventions so there is no way they can obtain a platform of their own setting forth the principles they stand on. The nearest we get to a political convention in this regard is the annual session of the State Labor and that of the Oregon Federation of Labor. The Grange held its meeting earlier in the year at Klamath Falls. The only significant shift in its policy was an endorsement of the "federal" plan of legislative apportionment, which promptly was seized by leaders in Eastern Oregon as a basis for launching a reapportionment effort.

The Federation of Labor has been meeting in Medford this week. In speeches and in resolutions which have been submitted for consideration complaints have been lodged against state government. One was a call for a change in the office of chairman of the Unemployment Compensation Commission—an arrow shot at T. Morris Dunne who has headed the commission since its inception, serving under six governors. Another was a demand to trim the powers of the speaker of the House and president of the Senate in the appointment of committees, a power held traditionally and one not likely to be disturbed. (Labor would use that power itself if it got control of either house). The ways and means committee of the Legislature came under attack too, for its usurpation of power. While the committee has in recent years shown a tendency to invade the executive, in its legislative capacity it has worked with great fidelity to the public interest. Certainly it has been quite generous in caring for the legitimate demands of the state, as the rise in appropriations proves.

This is a free country and organized labor has full liberty to express its views on public questions. However it must be recognized that any organization looks at such questions through the glasses of self-interest. While labor leaders have sometimes been unhappy over Oregon legislation, laws in this state are actually quite favorable to union labor. The state has no "right-to-work" law; unions have more freedom to picket than in many states; workers fare quite well under laws covering compensation for accidents and unemployment. We wish that some time the state Federation would acknowledge some of the good things which labor enjoys in Oregon.

Beachcombers along the Salem waterfront are warned to be on the lookout for a most unusual sight. Coming round the bend some day soon will be a bevy of OSC mermaids from Corvallis floating on truck tire inner tubes. A party made a similar journey from Corvallis to Albany last Saturday. According to the Corvallis Gazette-Times they got sunburned topside and frozen underside. Still they had such a good time floating with the current, paddling their own canoes, waving and talking to landlubbers along the way they decided to make the longer journey from Albany to Salem. With such a prospect, Salem should keep the harbor lights burning and the river guards on watch. Our harbor patrol should be alerted to give the Corvallis "floatilla" a cordial welcome.

Fairbanks, Alaska, reported 93 degree temperature the first of the week. So that's where our summer landed.

Threat of Red Attack on Quemoy, Matsus Seen Behind U. S. Willingness to Begin Talks

By JOSEPH ALSOP

WASHINGTON—The Eisenhower administration has at last agreed to start high-level, face-to-face talks with the Chinese Communists, because India's Krishna Menon in effect put a pistol to the heads of the President and Secretary of State Dulles.

It can now be revealed that when Menon visited Washington some time ago, he brought a categorical warning that the Chinese Communists would begin all-out attack on Quemoy and the Matsus within a few days after the meeting at the summit, if an agreement had not meanwhile been reached to start Sino-American talks about the situation in the Formosa Strait.

That was the pistol. There was a deal of haveling, and a great deal of debate too about whether Menon's warning was to be taken seriously or dismissed as blackmail. The American government was solemnly committed, after all, never to discuss this situation in the Formosa Strait with the Chinese Communists unless representatives of the Chinese Nationalists were also present at the conference table.

But now the talks with the Chinese Communists, demanded by Peking through Menon, are to begin on Aug. 1. The State Department's spokesman, with smug, transparent hypocrisy, has declared that the main topic will be the American prisoners in Chinese Communist hands. Sen. Knowland has been promised, apparently by the President himself, that the situation in the Formosa Strait will not be discussed. Maybe this is the present intention.

But it is hard to believe that this can be the present intention; and it is quite impossible to be-

lieve that such an intention will be adhered to, in view of the background of this vital new development.

Not only was the threat of an imminent Chinese Communist attack in the Formosa Strait the pistol that forced the agreement to talk. In addition, the agreement to talk was reached in negotiations in New Delhi, that followed Menon's visit to this country. And in New Delhi, the problem of the American prisoners counts for very little, and all attention is concentrated on the danger of war breaking out in the Formosa Strait.

The plain truth is, of course, that after many months of bluffing and big bold talk, the Administration has had to choose between a sure "that is all the more humiliating because of its background, or a very serious risk of war which the Administration is altogether unprepared to fight.

In the recent months of apparent lull, the balance of forces in the Pacific have actually deteriorated very greatly. On the one hand, America's already gravely enfeebled strength has been weakened further by the alleged economic crisis of Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson. And the strength of the Chinese Nationalists has been so little increased that their entire force of really modern jet fighters comprises a single group of F-86's.

On the other hand, the local striking power of the Chinese Communist has been materially increased, by a further redeployment southwards of the main body of their extremely strong air force. The airfields at Swatow, in the near neighborhood of Quemoy, and at Foochow, in the near neighborhood of the Matsus, are now fully ready for use by modern jets. This Communist planes, by flying from the main base areas in the regions of Canton and Shanghai and retreating at Foochow and Swatow, can operate over Quemoy

and the Matsus as long as or even longer than the planes of Chiang Kai-shek.

The Communist air strength absolutely outweighs the feeble strength of the Chinese Nationalists. It is even considerably greater than the local American and Chinese Nationalist air strength combined. Hence the Communists now have it clearly in their power to do either of two things. They can take Quemoy and the Matsus by direct assault. Or, more tactfully, they can starve Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's forces on these islands into submission and surrender by air blockade.

With the Chinese Communists in this highly favorable position, it was a plain case of "put up or shut up" for the Eisenhower administration. The betting is now at least 5 to 1 that the sorry story that began with the grandiloquent "unleashing of Chiang Kai-shek" will end with the "shut up" alternative being chosen.

Maybe the Chinese Communists will have to inaugurate their air blockade first, in order to persuade the still obstinate Generalissimo Chiang to withdraw his men from Quemoy and the Matsus. In that event, it can be stated on high authority, the Administration has already handsomely decided that American forces will be provided to cover this new evacuation, as was done in the case of the evacuation of Tachen islands.

All the same, it seems too bad that a little more thought was not given to the future before Chiang Kai-shek was "unleashed," or before the unfortunate Generalissimo was pressured to occupy the offshore islands in heavy force, or even at some point later in the story. If we meant to give way, it would have been nicer to do so on our own motion, instead of giving way in response to a threat transmitted by the most anti-American leader in Asia.

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Risk at the Pinnacle

In mountain climbing the goal is the very tip of the peak. But climbing the last few hundred feet may be very hazardous as Frank Gillette of Salem learned on North Sister last Sunday. When he reached for a hand hold in scaling the pinnacle he pulled loose a big rock which gave him a bad mauling as it tumbled down, and missed very narrowly others in the party below him. Pinnacles are always badly weathered. Rain and ice gnaw steadily at the rock until the pinnacle is pretty much just a pile of rock blocks. Climbing is done like going up a ladder, reaching for a hand-hold in a crevice of the rock above and finding a toehold like the rung on a ladder. Usually the rocks are secure enough and heavy enough not to be dislodged by the pull of the climber. Occasionally though one yields, as did the one on North Sister, and a chunk of the mountain responds to the pull of gravity, yielding to the forces of degradation by which even the mountains are brought low.

The Missing Two

The Eugene Register-Guard, noting the SP report that the daily average number of passengers northbound on the Rogue River Limited is only 20 and southbound 18, observes rather plaintively:

"Nobody has ever explained why those other two people never went back to Medford."

The "loss of population" really becomes alarming if one multiplies the two by the number of days in a year—that would be 730, and in ten years 7300. Keep the train running long enough and Medford would become only a signboard. This line of reasoning ought to persuade even Bob Ruhl of the Medford Mail-Tribune to urge the SP to take off the train, without delay.

A Georgia preacher went down into Florida to hold revival services. He was one of these Bible literalists who think their religion makes them immune from snakebite. He fondled a rattlesnake which bit him, and he promptly died. He claimed he had been bitten before by some 400 snakes without harm. If he did then he put the Lord to the test just once too often.

The regional director of union labor's League for Political Action told the building trades council at Medford: "We in California will gladly trade Senator Bill Knowland and Tommy Kuchel for Wayne Morse." A good many people up here would give Morse to California without consideration.

A bank at Twenty Nine Palms, Cal., was closed when a shortage of \$678,000 was discovered, the result of embezzlement by the vice president-cashier who had a racing stable. The president says he is dumfounded, but he shouldn't be. Horse racing and banking are a poor combination.

Editorial Comment

MOUNDS AND MYSTERY
Anthropologically speaking, the race of men is young in the western world. Compared with the peoples of the Near East and Asia, New World civilization came slowly. And measured against that of Europe it never advanced far in many respects. Therefore a discovery which pushes back the frontiers of culture among the "Indians" holds especial interest.

The "Mound Builders" of the Mississippi and Ohio Valleys probably represented the furthest cultural advance north and east of the "chiff dwellers" and pueblo builders of what is now Arizona and New Mexico. They were masters in chipping stone and some knew how to fashion copper (although they probably did not smelt it). But the Mound Builders were not thought ancient in Old World terms—at least not until the recent discovery at Poverty Point, Louisiana.

There under and around a great mound, second only to the mammoth Cahokia Mound in Illinois, have been unearthed the remains of a village which pushes back the frontier of Mound Builder civilization to the days of Nineveh's splendor, 2,700 years ago.

—Christian Science Monitor.

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"We've put across some ridiculous things, Senator... Bobop caput... Tavorador pants!... We got the know-how to handle your '56 campaign!..."

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1.)

not as good in the Far East. The Communists have taken possession of the China mainland, of North Korea and of North Vietnam. These have been serious losses from the standpoint of American diplomacy. But in that area the free world has met with considerable success. Here is a list:

1. Japan has been reestablished as a "going concern" with a stable government and a reviving economy, with a minimum of Communist influence.
2. A great cost the Republic of Korea was saved from the Red invader.
3. The Philippines has made remarkable progress in self-government, in close association with the United States.
4. Thailand remains loyal to the free world although it lacks military strength. The same is true of Laos and Cambodia.
5. The British have succeeded pretty well in suppressing the Red guerrillas in the Malay peninsula although Communist elements are still disturbing, particularly in Singapore.

Certain acute problems remain. Among them:

1. Unification of Korea and conclusion of the Korean war by formal treaty. This seems distant. Communists have been building up military strength in North Korea, but they hardly dare to breach the armistice.

Time Flies

FROM STATESMAN FILES

10 Years Ago

July 28, 1945

A fog-blinded army bomber crashed into the Empire State building at the 79th story and exploded inside with an earth-shaking roar, killing three fliers and at least 10 office workers and turning the world's tallest building into a smoking, flaming torch in the sky.

The tanker SS Silver Creek christened at Portland by Mrs. Harris Ellsworth, wife of the fourth congressional district's representative. The ship was named for a pioneer Oregon Community now the site of a state park.

Announcement that First Lt. Roy H. Gibbs, had been promoted to captain, infantry, and assigned to Co. E, 11th battalion, Oregon state guard, with station at Oceanlake, was made by the Adjutant General's office.

25 Years Ago

July 28, 1920

In the rustic setting of his Santa Barbara hacienda, and with the splinter of ceremonies, General Plutarco Elias Calles, former president of Mexico, and iron man of her politics, married Senora Leonor Llorente.

With the appointment of R. D. Miller as chief engineer; C. P. Toussaint as general plant manager, and Ferd Price, as general traffic manager, selection of the operating executive staff for the Oregon area, Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company, had been completed.

Fire destroyed the ice plant and cold storage warehouse of the Hood River Apple Grower's association. Loss was estimated at \$100,000.

40 Years Ago

July 28, 1915

Samples of flax, photographs of flax fields, and information and pamphlets concerning the flax industry in this section were sent by the Commercial club to W. A. Taylor, Marion county representative at the San Francisco exposition.

In round numbers there were 22,000,000 persons enrolled in educational institutions in the United States in 1914, according to the annual report of the Commissioner of education just issued. The cost of education for the year was estimated by the bureau, was \$750,000,000.

An automobile two miles long and containing 2467 seats would have been required to accommodate the Portlanders who were on the new Columbia river highway July 18.

Order Delays Traction Firm Service Cut

An order was signed by Public Utilities Commissioner Charles H. Heltzel here Wednesday directing the Portland Traction Company to abandon its proposal to reduce passenger service on interurban runs until after an investigation.

Announcement previously was made by the company it would reduce this service Aug. 14. The company operates this service between Portland, Oregon City and Bellrose.

Heltzel indicated he would set a hearing later. The traction company contends that Heltzel is without authority to interfere.

Heltzel recently denied a request by the company to terminate all passenger service on the line.

State Highway Condemnation Suit Underway

Another State Highway Department condemnation suit in connection with road-building programs in the Salem area started Wednesday in Marion County Circuit Court before Judge Val D. Sloper.

Property involved is south of Salem off Highway 90E in the Sunnyside-Illabe area and belongs to Roy and Salome Smith. The highway department alleges the property needed for road purposes plus damages to remaining property was worth \$2,356. The Smiths ask \$12,500 for the land.

The case will resume this morning.

Cardinal Spellman Visit Cancelled

NEW YORK (AP)—Cardinal Spellman's office said here he has decided not to visit Argentina, although his ship, the Brazil, is due to stop there.

The chancery office of the New York archdiocese quoted from a cablegram sent by the cardinal from shipboard. He has been in South America in connection with the Roman Catholic Church's 26th International Eucharistic Congress. Argentina has been the scene of a bitter church-state dispute.

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.)

Evil Heritage

To the Editor:

The recent threat,—or promise, depending on to whom it was directed,—to abandon the last semblance of passenger service on the "friendly S. P." between Portland and Ashland, brings to mind some of the early-day history of that great sprawling octopus and its instigator, Colitis Huntington. When Leland Stanford presumed to quit as U. S. Senator to become governor of California, Huntington said, "Oh, no, you are more valuable to the S. P. as Senator than you could be as Governor of California."

When the Civil War was raging and America was in the throes of destruction Senator Stanford rushed to Chicago; not to help stop the carnage nor help President Lincoln emancipate the Negro; not in any way to help the public. Stanford's mission was to get a plank into the 1864 Republican National Convention platform by which Huntington would get more millions of America's acres.

One of Huntington's boasts was that "whoever I bribe I make forever my slave." Via Jim Blaine et al he distributed a quarter million dollars in the U. S. Congress. Votes of the Congress were obtained by barter:—Jay Gould with a half million bribes, and others paid silyberly politicians for what they wanted. The corruptive influence of Huntington et al on politicians 100 years ago is part of America's sad history, including some of the loss of a people's heritage. Have management procedure principles and practices changed from simply ignoring the public and the Government contract, as was done in sales of timber-land obtained by bribery? Patrick Henry said "you can only judge the future by the past."

The legal proceedings of Federal Government vs the S. P. about 1906-10, though dry reading, does arouse one's interest in America's past, present and future governing bodies and natural resources. — Read the record.

JOHN E. GRIBBLE,
Medford, Oregon.

Street Widening

To the Editor:

I read with interest your Seems to Me column, on more planned and wider market roads, which is long overdue.

I think everyone who has an interest in all Salem's future and its surrounding valley will agree with you.

And the easier you make it for people outside of Salem, as well as those in our city limits, the more people will come and flow freely to parts of the city.

Wide county roads are necessary now more than ever. But wide streets are also necessary. Now you speak of the county roads which some are only 40 feet. I believe with the heavy traffic, which is only a trickle, to what some of our city streets carry.

Now we will take South 12th St. which is only 34 feet and carries 12,000 cars per day. And yet it seems impossible to get it widened or get any interest worked up over this serious condition and threat to life, either driving on or walking across it.

Now we would like to hear from you on ways and means through your column as how to correct this sadly neglected street for it is an arterial street direct to the state capitol, and downtown. It ties into two market roads south, one to Pringle Road and the other to 12 St. Junction and Highway 90E South.

J. K. Cloyd
903 S. 12th St.

(Editor's Note: The Statesman has already noticed the resolution of Alderman Bonesteel for preparation of a priority list on street improvements, based on a survey of needs. On such a list No. 12th St. will surely have a high rating.)

Symbols
To the Editor:
People adopt their own symbols and without the aid of a Nixon. Many of us will give the summit meeting the symbol of a cocktail glass. Either umbrella or glass, doesn't matter — both meetings, summit and Munich, were "all wet." This last one just seemed to be more of a family affair.

MARY A. FREDERICK,
2390 Broadway.

Second Salk Vaccine Shots Scheduled by Marion County

Second-round polio shots for Marion County children, which will begin Monday, will be held at the same locations as the first clinics early this spring.

The schedule, as prepared by the

Americans' Release 1st In China Talk

By J.M. ROBERTS

Associated Press News Analyst
If the United States can negotiate the release of all or most of the Americans now held in Red China then it is quite possible for the two nations to move on to negotiation of broader matters.

The prospect has been growing, under pressure from the neutralist quarters of Asia, that the United States, to avoid a charge of intransigence, would have to attend, sooner or later, some sort of meeting to discuss Asiatic problems.

The prospect also has been growing that Red China, confronted by the sweetness and light campaign emanating from world Communist headquarters in Moscow, would have to release 51 Americans, and other foreigners as well, before Peiping can get on the new party line.

The background of arrangements for American-Chinese talks at Geneva, at a higher level than heretofore, goes back several weeks. The United States has had in mind all along that the Chinese Reds were lying low to see if anything of interest to them developed at Geneva. Nothing did.

The United States, however, though opposed to discussing Asiatic affairs at a conference where the area was not represented, wanted to make clear that she was not working for peace with only one hand. She also wanted to forestall any idea in Peiping that Asiatic affairs were being shunted aside, and so perhaps encourage the Reds to break the lull which has dropped over the Far East since the crisis of last spring.

The State Department announcement that Alexis Johnson, ambassador to Czechoslovakia, would meet a Chinese representative in Geneva was extremely conservative. It did not exclude talks about other things than the prisoners, but played down the prospects.

As a matter of fact, however, this cannot be anything except a major American move to get the ball rolling toward a situation in the Far East comparable to that which now obtains in Europe because of the Geneva conference.

To oversimplify, that is to halt progress toward war even if nothing concrete can be done immediately about peace.

The United States is still insisting that nothing detrimental to Nationalist China will be done at conferences where Chiang Kai-shek is not represented. But if enough good will can be generated through a deal on the prisoners, it seems reasonable to believe that exploratory talks on other subjects, such as a Formosan cease fire, could begin with Chiang only in the background, as Chancellor Adenauer was in the background during the Big Four discussion on Germany.

City to Tow Fire Truck to Resting Place

A 32-year-old city fire truck which in its day raced to many a Salem fire, will be towed through the city Friday to a place of rest in Bush's Pasture.

There the immobilized old pumper will become a plaything for children, near the new playground area in the southeast section of the city park.

In a ceremony at 1:15 p.m. Friday, the parks department will become third city department to have jurisdiction over the pumper. It served the fire department from 1923 to 1950 and since has been at the city airport. It is no longer in operating condition.

GOOD NEIGHBORS

STREETER, N. D. (UP)—Farmer Raymond L. Wentz had no cause to worry about his field work getting completed when he entered a hospital. Forty farmers from three neighboring counties brought their own machines and muscles into play and worked Wentz's fields.

DRAMATIC "NILE MOTHER" FILM

IN PERSON! MISS LILLIAN TRASHER, FOUNDER OF ASSUIT, EGYPT, ORPHANAGE

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Parallels the Miracles of the Geo. Mueller Orphanage
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