

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us. No Fear Shall Awe"
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A Disgraceful Impediment

There seems little excuse for the year-after-year high-water closure of the Salem-Independence Road. It has been closed on the Marion County side at least three times already this fall, and as late as yesterday afternoon, after a rainless day, there still was a stretch of 2 1/2 miles that drivers of low-shinners would be hesitant to traverse. There was a sign "road closed" a mile or so from the bridge across the Willamette—and 9 miles from downtown Salem. So motorists travelled 9 miles to find they couldn't get the last mile into Independence.

The five-mile stretch from Salem to Roberts has been improved in fine shape. The next five miles remains in fair condition, aside from a particularly atrocious and dangerous railroad underpass which never should have been built. Then comes the several hundred yards of lowland over which river water sweeps in periods of heavy precipitation.

The stretch covered by water Monday afternoon didn't exceed 250 yards, although at least that much more probably was covered during the high period the previous night. But from all available measurements it appeared that if the 250 yards had a roadway two or three feet higher, the entire road would be traversable even if some parts of it might be covered a few inches.

It is a disgrace to have a new \$1,000,000 bridge, a new five-mile strip of road, and other five miles in passable condition—and let a few hundred yards of neglected roadway continue to impede and endanger through traffic.

The Salem-Independence road is under the jurisdiction of the Marion County Court, which is very cognizant of the problem. It is considering what can be done in the way of diverting other road funds to keep the Salem-Independence route passable the year around. It is also considering automatic lighted signs which would warn of the road's closure near the Salem city limits, at Roberts and, from the opposite direction, at the Independence Bridge.

It is true that there are unimproved roads of vital economic importance in other parts of the county, and that any diversion of funds from these would meet with protest. But factors now apparent also were evident long before the \$1,000,000 bridge was constructed. If mistakes in allocation of funds were made in the past, that does not obviate the need to finish the river-road job so that there is full value for the money already spent. It is better to have a through goat trail than a dead-end highway.

Ellsworth Asks Questions

Informal polls may or may not disclose a true picture of majority thinking, depending on the volume of response and on the nature of the population polled. But they're interesting and the results oft-times surprising.

Such is the one taken recently by Rep. Harris Ellsworth (R-Ore.). Roseburg, who sent out 12,000 questionnaires and reports that 47 of the Oregon farmers who responded (and 54 1/2 per cent of the total response) declared the "soundest agricultural program" would have no price supports at all, rigid or flexible.

Thirty-nine per cent of the farmers (and the same percentage in response from all vocations) favored the present administration's

program of flexible price supports. Rigid price supports were favored by 13 per cent of the farmers and 6 1/2 per cent of everyone responding.

The "vote" was in the fourth congressional district (Southern Oregon from Lane County to the California line).

On increased social security benefits, with greater payroll deductions, 48.4 per cent were favorable, 43.9 opposed, remainder undecided.

The administration's "partnership" power program was favored by 59.8 per cent, 22.5 wanted federal, state and county governmental units to finance power projects, and 17 per cent wanted only the federal government to do the work.

On other questions, 83 per cent wanted no tax reduction until the budget is balanced; 73 per cent favored increased postal rates to meet the postoffice deficit; 54 per cent would seek federal grants for school construction; 81 per cent liked President Eisenhower's road-modernization program; 72 per cent opposed subsidized public housing and 77 per cent opposed government competition with private business and industry.

Such figures can be interpreted or misinterpreted from most any standpoint but at least Representative Ellsworth has a good idea about what a cross-section of his constituency is thinking.

In the United Fund

Youth opened its heart to youth, with adult aid, over the weekend, and then didn't know what to do with the money it had collected. The incident arose from a Portland TV station's mass-teen program to raise funds for cerebral palsy victims. In Portland, means of assembling the collections had been set up. But not in valley points. The assumption is, of course, that the money collected eventually will find its way to the TV station and be properly dispersed. It was a nice gesture that so many Salem area boys and girls joined in the program of aid.

The point should be made, however, that such specific programs should come under the United Fund. Separate collections defeat the very purpose for which United Fund was established. It was to do away with a score of separate "drives," thus encouraging wider and more generous participation in an overall campaign for community betterment, that Community Chests and then United Funds were established.

The cerebral palsy effort, and other worthy movements of its kind, should join in the united campaign for the benefit of all.

Attractive State Parks

A 50 per cent increase in the number of overnight campers in state parks this year, with resultant increased revenue, would seem firm justification for the expansion of facilities begun by the state parks department soon after World War II.

The over-night campers by no means equal numerically the total who used the state parks (6,900,000 in the first 10 months this year). But they reflect in considerable measure the ever-increasing influx from other climes. They totalled 157,000 up to Nov. 1, compared with just over 100,000 for the entire year 1954.

Of particular interest to the mid-valley is the more than 3,000 over-nighters who used the new Detroit State Park. And we would guess that is hardly a good start compared with the next few years.

The Brookings man who sent in his back taxes in deliberately-dirtied coins and an old shirt probably feels a lot better for having vented his feelings. But it makes it a bit tough on the recipients who have to handle the mess and yet had nothing whatever to do with the decision to which he very apparently objects.

We're beginning to appreciate the truth in the old joke about the woman who wished Christmas came at some other time of the year than the busy, holiday season.



... And I consider it dirty politics that the opposition makes mental health an issue in this campaign by pointing to my record!

Fate of 'Partnership Power' Hinges on Two Senate Races

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Statesman Correspondent

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first of four articles on the implications of the power policy dispute on the Pacific Northwest as it heads into an important election year and a critical session of Congress.)

WASHINGTON—The upcoming election campaigns of Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon and Warren G. Magnuson of Washington are expected to be the most important in the Pacific Northwest since the battle ground for one of the fiercest political struggles in the nation this coming year.

What will give these twin senatorial campaigns unusual national significance is the fact that the biggest issue at stake will be the Eisenhower administration's "partnership" power policy. That issue is bound to dominate the election year in both Columbia valley states stems from the willingness—indeed, the anxiety—of both sides to make it the big issue.

Power Issue Dominant

This will be so even if these two Democratic senators are not challenged by the Republican governors of their respective states. It will simply be all the more so if Gov. Paul Patterson tackles Morse and Gov. Arthur B. Langlie takes on Magnuson, for both governors strongly support the administration on this controversial issue.

In all of the changes of domestic policy announced by the Eisenhower administration after taking office early in 1953, none—not even the explosive farm issue—has marked a more decisive change from the past 20 years than the "partnership" electric power policy. Under it, the Republicans have sought to make a basic turn away from federal financing of river development and federal power generally toward privately financed power projects of investor-owned power companies.

"Very Real" in Northwest

While this new policy has been academic for most areas of the country where private utilities have generated and distributed all power, it has become very real in the two well-defined areas toward which it was aimed: the TVA area, served entirely by government-built projects, and the Pacific Northwest, supplied mainly by such federal river projects as Grand Coulee, Bonneville and McNary dams.

Time Flies:

10 Years Ago
Dec. 13, 1945

Representatives of seven cities of the Willamette Valley met at the city hall in Monmouth to discuss plans for the future of Camp Adair and its relative importance to the adjoining areas. It was announced in The Statesman, Nov. 16, 1955, that plans for a \$5,000,000 Air Force Communications center to be completed by Dec. 1957, was scheduled.

Gen. George C. Marshall arrived at Manila, en route to China in his new role of U.S. ambassador. Marshall toured the ruined city before taking off for China.

The first group of high point men of the 96th (Dead Eye) infantry division to return home from the Pacific arrived at Fort Lewis. They came up from San Francisco to Tacoma on the shuttle ship Zeilan.

25 Years Ago
Dec. 13, 1930

Eye glasses without rims, nose guard or ear shafts were exhibited at the convention of the American academy of optometry at Omaha, Neb. The lenses are finely ground pieces of glass which fit against the eye ball and held in place by the eyelids.

The death of Thomas Davis in Vancouver brought back to mem-

In the TVA area, the administration championed until recently the Dixon-Yates power contract, under which a utility syndicate would have built a large steam plant near Memphis supplying the TVA system indirectly with a new block of energy. Simultaneously, plans for a government steam plant TVA wanted to build were scrapped.

GOP Policy Prevailed

In the midst of a big political fight over the Dixon-Yates contract, the city of Memphis said it would build its own steam plant, which led the administration to cancel the Dixon-Yates contract. The government has since decided the contract was illegal all along because of a conflict of interest involving Adolph Wenzell, who was advisor to both the administration and the private banking firms involved.

But while this contract has caused the Republicans political embarrassment, the net of it is that the power policy of the administration prevailed to halt federal construction of new facilities for TVA in favor of a locally-financed plant.

"Partnership" Blocked

Not so in the Pacific Northwest, where four Democratic senators have formed a solid line of opposition in the Senate to the new power policy. To date they have been able to block every "partnership" scheme to which they were opposed. GOP supporters acknowledge that their policy cannot be implemented in the face of this Democratic opposition.

Hence the Republican effort to knock off either Morse or Magnuson or both obtains its special significance for 1956. For unless the GOP can win one of these two Senate seats, the administration's "partnership" power policy for the Northwest will likely go the way of the proposed Columbia Valley Authority (CVA) and other loudly advocated schemes which were stymied where the final decisions are always made—in the halls of Congress.

(NEXT—John Day dam: focal point of the power debate.)

Physical Education Clearing House Due

NAPLES 12—The Congress of Studies of Physical Education, winding up an 11-nation conference attended by 200 teachers, decided to set up an international center here as a clearing house for information. Experts came from Italy, Austria, Czechoslovakia, France, West Germany, Iraq, Yugoslavia, Romania, The Soviet Union, Spain and Switzerland.

From The Statesman Files

ory a character who lived in Salem when such men as A. N. Bush were boys. Davis known as "Tom" was a Negro, six feet tall, who was coachman, cook, butler for the G. W. Gray family, pioneers in Salem, 45 years ago.

Completion of a 20 by 40 foot addition to the present lobby of the Senator hotel will be made, according to W. W. Chadwick, manager. New furniture will be added to the lobby which will front on Court Street.

40 Years Ago

Dec. 13, 1915
Miss Marcella Byron entertained the members of the Snik-poh Dramatic society at her home with dancing, taffy pulling. Some of the guests were: Elbel McGillchrist, Beatrice Walton, Alice Baker, Ruth Schultz, Lyle Bartholomew, Oral Lemmon, George Doust and Victor Taylor.

President Wilson completed the first draft of the new note to Austria-Hungary reiterating the American demands regarding the sinking of the Italian steamship Ancona.

The Union Meat company of Portland was awarded the contract to furnish the State institutions with meat for the next six months. R. B. Goddin, secretary of the board, said the award was made because of the superior product of the company.

What Christmas Means to Me

(Editor's note: This is a series of personal appraisals of the significance of Christmas, written by members of representative Salem churches at the invitation of The Statesman.)

By W. V. (PAT) LYTLE
(Business proprietor, Sunday School teacher, St. Mark's Lutheran Church.)

We must realize that the spirit of Christmas is meant to be a time for us to become spiritually more aware of our relationship with God.

The most exciting news the world has ever known is this:

"The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us."
No one "has ever seen God in all His full glory at any time, but God became visible to human gaze when Christ was born in Bethlehem. The most skeptical among us may satisfy himself on that point if we care to brush aside the bright paper and gay bows of today's Christmas season.

There is more; the old news is also new news. It is news for me. "Unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour which is Christ the

Lord."
Here is my source of power which enables me to live the kind of life I know God wants me to live through faith in him.
"I am come that they might have life and have it more abundantly." My Saviour has been born. If you are lost in the glitter and tinsel of our modern Christmas, if it seems "old stuff," then gladly will I share old news, new news, and the Good News of salvation. Therein is the real meaning of Christmas.

South Salem High Teenagers Challenge Elders on Points

By JERRY STONE
Staff Writer, The Statesman

"Teenagers often clash with parents over things like nights out," said a pretty South Salem High School student Monday night, "but afterward we usually concede they're right because they're more mature."

That was senior Laura Lee Grummett, 760 W. Vista Ave., commenting at a panel discussion dealing with teenage problems which often get in the hair of parents. The affair was sponsored by the South Salem High Mothers and Dads' Club and followed a similar program held last week at North Salem High School.

Four students, picked for the Monday night panel as a cross-section of teenage opinion, agreed with their elders on most points—but challenged the elders on a few.

Television vs. home work... late hours vs. parental deadlines... effectiveness or ineffectiveness of the word "No!" on adolescents: these were among topics which felt the weight of both youthful and older opinion.

Panel Moderator

Also occupying the panel were two parents and a teacher who flavored the flow of opinion with comment from the "other side of the fence." Panel moderator Robert Voigt, South Salem dean of boys, cautioned at the outset that no definite conclusions would be reached. None were—but a sizeable turnout at the school's Little Theater must feel they better understand their offspring for having been there Monday night.

On the matter of conflict of television with studies all panel members, elders and students, agreed common sense should be used in turning on the dial.

"Often one will find half the mind studying and the other half on TV if no control is exercised," observed another pretty senior, Judy Keller, 1755 S. High St.

Butler Says Republicans 'Aggressors'

WASHINGTON 12—The running dispute between Democrats and Republicans over which party is waging class warfare brought from Paul M. Butler, Democratic national chairman, Monday the charge that Republicans are "the aggressor."

"Dangerous, divisive warfare which the Republican Party has fomented and fought for a good many years," he called the GOP's actions.

Butler didn't say so but his blast obviously was aimed at Leonard Hall, Republican national chairman, who charged on Saturday that "for 25 years the New Deal and Fair Deal spokesmen have waged a class conflict."

Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "We cannot accept of your hospitality any longer, although we are awfully happy to have been with you."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "edible"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Privacy, ecstasy, fallacy, intricacy.
4. What does the word "altruistic" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with exp that means "to enlarge in discourse or writing"?

ANSWERS

1. Omit "of," and say, "we are very happy." 2. Pronounce first e as in bed, accent first syllable. 3. Ecstasy. 4. Actuated by a regard for the welfare of others; benevolent. "His altruistic attitude toward those in need did not blind him to the demands of his own family." 5. Expatiate.

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Natural Gas Bill Likely to Open Gaping Hole in Much-Vaunted Democratic Unity

By JOSEPH AND STEWART
ALSO

WASHINGTON—There has been much self-congratulatory talk among Democrats about the marvelous party unity they have achieved since 1952. But there is one issue which is likely to start one of the bitterest party rows in years—more bitter even than the offshore oil issue which for the party a part in the last presidential election. The row is expected to break out, moreover, within two weeks of the opening of the next session of Congress.

The Fulbright bill, which would free producers of natural gas from federal price regulation, is very near the top of the senate calendar. The enemies of the Fulbright bill say that its passage would cost consumers as much as \$800,000,000 a year in hiked gas prices. And, according to one expert estimate, passage of the bill could increase the value of proved gas reserves by a cool \$20,000,000,000.

Obviously, large interests are involved. The floor leader for the bill will be Sen. William Fulbright of Arkansas. But its most important proponent will be Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson of Texas, who is probably the most powerful man in the senate.

Johnson, whose state is the biggest of the four major gas-producing states, frankly intends to use all his power to secure passage of the bill. He has remarked flatly that he will work

just as hard for the gas producers as Sen. Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota, for example, works for his dairy farmers.

Until recently, it did not seem probable that Johnson would really have to work very hard. According to his own reported estimate as of September he could count on a sure majority of 58 votes. And just because passage of the Fulbright bill seemed so certain, it was thought it would meet only token opposition.

But now all is changed. Previously, the oil companies which have favored the bill and which probably constitute the most politically powerful of all business groups, have met no opposition from within the business community. But now 40 utility companies from all over the country fearing that big increases in gas prices would badly hurt their business, have banded together to fight the Fulbright bill. And the utilities are also not without political influence.

Moreover, the Johnson forces have been warned to expect a fight. Johnson's Texas colleague, Price Daniel, recently remarked to Sen. Paul Douglas of Illinois that he hoped the natural gas bill would go through quickly, without a bad fight. Douglas amiably replied that he thought the issue demanded "very careful examination." He has since let it be known that he has already reached page 70 on a speech he is writing on the issue, and that he expects to double that.

Given the usual interruptions, a senate speech of 140 pages will make fine substitute for a filibuster—until a real one comes along. Moreover, there have been important breaks in the pro-Johnson ranks.

Sens. Harry Byrd and Willis Robertson of Virginia, for ex-

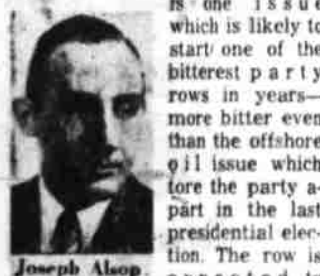
ample, are now counted as Douglas allies. Other Southerners, like the very influential Richard Russell of Georgia, are reported wavering. And strong support from his fellow Southerners is essential to a victory for Johnson on the issue.

Douglas, moreover, counts confidently on the votes of at least 15 Republicans from the gas-consuming states in the Mid-West and North-East. All in all, it begins to seem that the Fulbright bill will be no pushover, although the odds are no doubt still on its passing. And it is as certain as such things can be that there will be a big, angry fight within the Democratic party before it does pass.

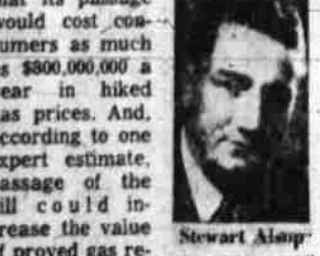
Northern Democrats are even madder that, if Johnson and the Southerners insist on pushing the natural gas issue, they may decide to push the civil rights issue. Party unity, they argue, is now a one-way street. This kind of muttering could lead to an explosion which would break the facade of Democratic unity into smithereens.

The Republicans are divided on the issue too, of course, but there is not nearly the same passion on either side among Republicans and a big row on the issue would clearly hurt the Democrats far more. The hurt could be especially painful to Adlai Stevenson. As in the case of the offshore oil issue in 1952, Stevenson will almost certainly have to declare himself on natural gas. A stand against the gas interests might well lose him a lot of Southern and South-Western delegates. And Stevenson needs those delegates badly, for the first-ballot win which he is clearly planning for next summer's convention.

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Joseph Alsop



Stewart Alsop