

Oregon Statesman
No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe
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CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor & Publisher

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Al Serena Hearing
Hearings are to open today in Washington on the Al Serena case. This time the McDonalds who own the mining claims involved in this controversy will be given a chance to testify.

This hardly sounds like the North Carolina senator, and we wonder if this language was written for him by some one much closer to Oregon politics. After some initial publicity Scott was quoted as saying he did not think the Department had acted "illegally" but the inference from the statement of "concocting a scheme" certainly is one of defrauding the government.

We are quite confident that a full disclosure will remove any imputation of fraudulent action on the part of the Department of the Interior. The lands were originally filed on as mining claims, very substantial sums spent in developing the mineral values with a brief period of production during the war. The only question before the Department was whether the minerals were of sufficient value to make mining practical.

The Windsors have gone literary. Arriving in New York the Duke reported on his new hobby of gardening at his country estate south of Paris and said he had written an article on the subject to be printed by Life magazine this spring. As for the Duchess, who has been writing her autobiography—that, she said, will start as a magazine serial in March and be published in September.

One answer to the question of what to do with surplus acres assigned to the soil bank would be to give them back to the Indians. The Indians never overproduced or damaged the soil.

Loyalty Board Reverses Itself; New Verdict Clears William Henry Taylor of Red Charge

By JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON—The Japanese Internment camp in Hongkong was a fairly disagreeable place. In which public spirit was less common than the spirit of "devil take the hindmost." A small minority did the work of the community. The rest played the blackmarket, or made a hobby of envy, or simply lost faith and abandoned hope.

In these circumstances, the small, determined, beaver-like man, who was to be seen busily trotting about on every work detail, was a not inconsiderable figure. He appeared to be, as indeed he was, dedicated to the public service. He was one of the real workers among the three hundred odd Americans who were locked up in Stanley Camp along with more than three thousand Britishers—the human refuse of a collapsed colonial society.

Such was William Henry Taylor when one of these reporters first encountered him in the grim winter of 1942. In Stanley Camp we had had our Communist agents—little, black-voiced little Epsteins—little, black-voiced little Epsteins of the Serge ring and his tall, blonde English mistress, Elizabeth Chastanedeley, who might have been very beautiful if she had

ever washed. But they had escaped very early and with great bravery, one had to admit.

Furthermore, Epstein had taken two or three more rather irrelevant people with him hence it was a fair deduction that if our camp harbored another really important member of the world Communist conspiracy, he would have been included in their well-planned escape.

But poor Taylor stayed with the work detail until the Americans were exchanged. So when Taylor re-entered the reporter's life some years ago, telephoning to ask for a letter to a loyalty board, it was easy to comply with his request. The reporter wrote that as far as he knew Mr. Taylor, the proceeding against him was a disgrace, not to Taylor, but to the government of the United States.

It had been Taylor's bad luck to work in Harry Dexter White's Department of the Treasury. For this reason he had been denounced by Miss Elizabeth Bentley as a Communist agent. Originally, in answer to a question about the persons who passed Treasury documents to her, Miss Bentley declared that sometimes "it was William Taylor." Later, she revised, or at least diluted, her testimony to read that she had merely heard from Nathan Gregory Silvermaster that Taylor was a member of the Communist underground in the U.S. government.

Because of Miss Bentley, Taylor was first visited by the FBI in 1947. Thereafter, he was called before four successive grand juries. He made three appearances before Congressional committees (twice McCarthy and once McCarran). In the end, in 1953, his case was taken up by the international organization's loyalty board.

He went before this rather special board because, in 1946, he had left the Treasury for a job with the International Monetary Fund. Two successive Secretaries of the Treasury, John Snyder and George M. Humphrey, urged the Director of the Fund, J. Van Rooth, to fire Taylor without further quibbling. But Dr. Rooth had not

old-fashioned Scandinavian sense of fairness. He waived the board's verdict.

Having begun hearings in the autumn of 1953, and having "closed the case" in December of that year, the loyalty board rather oddly waited until the spring of 1955 to hand down its first verdict. The board then advised Dr. Rooth that Taylor had been an active Communist spy. But in order to convince Dr. Rooth, the board had to be much more specific about the charges against Taylor than the regulations had allowed when Taylor was on trial.

The board chairman, Henry S. Waldman, of Elizabeth, N. J., admitted as much to one of these reporters. Waldman explained that the first verdict against Taylor had revealed to Taylor's courageous lawyer, Byron Scott, what might be needed to prove Taylor's innocence. Taylor immediately applied for a re-hearing. His request was granted. And now only a little more than half a year after the first terrible verdict that he was an active and conscientious Communist spy, the same international organization's loyalty board has held that there "is no reasonable doubt" as to the loyalty of William Henry Taylor.

The courage and fairness of the loyalty board, in thus admitting its own hideous error, cannot be over-praised, but what about the testimony of Miss Bentley, who started the whole business? What about the government preparation of the case against Taylor, which was a mass of smears and poison pen letters, by the loyalty board's own final verdict?

And what about Attorney General Herbert Brownell, who had the responsibility for the preparation of the government case?

Brownell publicly denounced Taylor as a spy on the basis, apparently, of the cheap, trumped-up stuff that the loyalty board has now decisively thrown out of court. What has he to say now? These are questions that have to be answered, if American justice means anything at all.

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



... And in conclusion, let me say that if all we clubwomen raise our voices for peace, no one could hear anything else!

Comes the Dawn by Conrad Franke

Have we waterlogged Oregon peasants been taken up the flooded creek recently by those sunny weather reports from California? Well, Louis du Buy and family of Salem were traveling through the Los Angeles area the other day. It was cold and cars which had stood on the streets all night were ice-covered. So a hot-breathed radio announcer came on with a weather report from L. A. That's right; he said the lowest temperature the night before was "about 45 degrees." Maybe it freezes higher on the thermometer in California...

And the weather isn't all they're foggy about in the Southland. If you watched that Cal-USC basketball game from Berkeley over TV Saturday, you were probably wondering, along with the rest of us, what really happened. The first time Al (Pennies From Heaven) Lightner got hit in the eye with a Lincoln-head, announcer Tom Harmon mumbled something about "Referee Lightner apparently got something in his eye." And even though the local public-address announcer warned fans against heaving the coppers, not a word of this leaked to the TV audience. After all, maybe WE wanted to throw pennies, too...

And still no pennies were mentioned after the game was over, although Harmon did say something about Lightner getting struck with an "object." Anyway, you'd think anyone old enough to watch a basketball game on TV ought to be old enough to be told about those naughty penny-pitching students... And Lightner told us how he cleverly made himself unavailable for contact after the game. He simply stayed at his sister's house in Salinas, instead of at a hotel... Incidentally, this was the first time in the 34-year basketball history of the PCC a game was ever forfeited...

And speaking of weather... A reader informs us that this is the time of year when the criminal charge of "larceny by bailce," refers to a man caught stealing his neighbor's basement pump...

And even Charles Ireland, Statesman valley editor, had his spot of trouble over the weekend. Seems that Charlie received a bill for \$14 from the ABC Window Cleaners. So Charlie, who regularly pays his wife for cleaning the windows at his house, figured something was wrong. He called ABC and asked what that bill was for. "Why," said the ABC man, "for cleaning windows at the governor's house." Turned out the bill should have been sent to E. J. Ireland, secretary of the state board of control...

Time Flies: From The Statesman Files

10 Years Ago Jan. 10, 1946

Leaving for Portland to make their home Mrs. Robert Coffey and her daughter, Carol and Sharon. Dr. Coffey is already in Portland where he has opened his offices.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower disclosed he has banned any further GI demonstrations but ordered inspectors to "every camp and post" to see that his latest demobilization order is followed.

The Salem Elks lodge will conduct a ritualistic funeral service for Dr. Thomas C. Smith, former Salem resident who was one of two surviving charter members of the local lodge, No. 336.

25 Years Ago Jan. 10, 1931

Bend's two large mills, which in normal times have a cut of about 2,000,000 feet daily, have been operating on light schedules in recent months, Senator Jay Upton reports.

Don Moe of Portland, and Keith Hall of Marshfield, are Salem guests during the session of legislature. Mr. Moe is well known throughout the country for his golf. Both young men attended the University of Oregon, and are members of Beta Theta Pi.

The present time is not feasible for effort to put the North Santiam highway on the state highway map, the county court informed Rep. James W. Mott in a letter mailed as a result of the representative's consultation with the court on the matter.

40 Years Ago Jan. 10, 1916

Al Baker while crowds watched in a driving snowstorm, more than fifteen hundred gallons of beer was poured into a sewer in main street. The beer kept in storage which was controlled by a Portland brewery saw the representative touring through Ore-

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page one)

of excessive production from acreage diverted from surplus crops.

"Third, lands poorly suited to tillage, now producing uneeded crops and subject to excessive wind and water erosion, must be retired from cultivation."

The solution he proposes is retirement of additional acres now devoted to the basic crops, wheat, cotton, corn, rice. This would be a voluntary acreage reserve and would be left idle. Farmers would be compensated therefor. Acreage reduction in wheat should be about 12 million acres and in cotton three million. This reserve would be continued for three or four years until present surplus commodities are reduced to normal carryover dimensions.

The second soil bank the President recommends is much larger—some 25 million acres. This would not be idle but could be used for forage (grazing), for tree-growing or for water storage. Cooperation would be voluntary, and the government would agree to compensate the farmer annually for the length of time required to establish the land in its new use. The owner would be required to carry out good soil conservation practices.

There are a number of other proposals in the President's farm program but these are the heart of his plan to curb excess production.

I will not attempt after a hurried reading of the President's message to offer my appraisal of his recommendations. I recognize the fact that agriculture has not shared in the current prosperity in the degree to which it is entitled as a most essential industry. The President also has made a bold attack at the root of the problem: too much production for the market to absorb at prices growers regard as compensatory.

The program will not be an easy one to administer, because of the great variety of individual and farm situations. Instead of getting government out of agriculture it will involve government more deeply over a long term of years. It still leaves unsolved the problem of the subsistence farmer whose acres are too few for his decent subsistence.

There is this further question whether the billion plus will not become a permanent increment of the budget, extending well beyond the time when the ailment for which it was prescribed has been cured.

At least President Eisenhower has given Congress and the country a definite program, constructive in the way it tackles the problem which has vexed the country with greater or less acuteness ever since the first world war.

County GOP Board Names Smith, Rodin

Two new leaders were named Monday night by the executive board of the Marion County Republican Central Committee at a meeting at the Senator Hotel. Eight new finance committee members also were picked. Elmer Smith was named treasurer replacing the resigned Ward R. Davis, who filled the spot for five years. Picked to succeed the resigned George A. Jones as chairman of the finance committee was Pat Rodin, Salem.

Named to the finance committee were the following: John Carlin, Harry V. Collins, William E. Healy, Dr. Don Sanders, all of Salem; R. A. Fish, Silverton; Walter Bell, Stayton; John Hunt, Woodburn; and Leonard Fischer, Mt. Angel.

The board empowered Sid Schlesinger, central committee chairman, to secure office space in the next few months for permanent quarters for the committee. The board voted to hold meetings regularly on the first Monday of each month and also called attention to a \$100 per plate GOP luncheon in Portland on Jan. 20.

Time Flies FROM STATESMAN FILES

- 1. What is wrong with this sentence? "He is engaged in a different line of business, and this seems apropos with the times." 2. What is the correct pronunciation of "melodic"? 3. Which one of these words is misspelled? C a n t a l o p e, microscop, antelope, caloupe. 4. What does the word "discordant" mean? 5. What is a word beginning with v that means "pertaining to spring"?

ANSWERS 1. Omit "line of," and say, "apropos of the times." 2. Pronounce the o as in odd, not as in load. 3. Canalooupe. 4. Not in harmony. "Discordant thoughts are not conducive to happiness." 5. Vernal.

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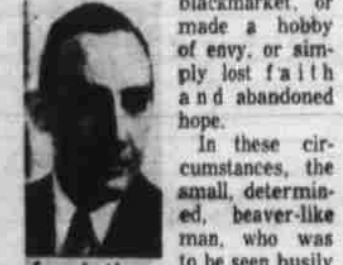
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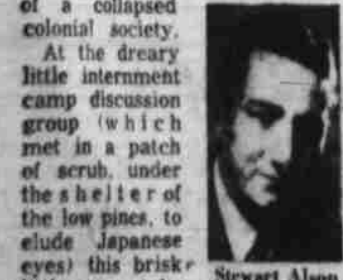
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German Advertising of Cameras on Increase BRUNWICK, Germany (U.S.)—The West German camera industry plans to boost its advertising abroad in 1956 to meet growing Japanese competition. This is the word from A. Oehme, director of the Voigtlaender camera plant. He said of three million cameras produced in West Germany last year, 60 per cent were exported. The industry plans to concentrate on the American market.

YOUR SAVINGS EARN MORE ACCOUNTS INSURED TO \$10,000 3% Current rate Savings at First Federal Savings Are Safe Safe - Each saver's funds are insured to \$10,000. Available - No waiting years for full earnings. First - Is federally chartered and supervised. Earnings - Are 1/2 to 1% more at First Federal. "SAVE WHERE SAVING PAYS" FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS "Where Thousands Are Saving Millions" Convenient Downtown Location 129 North Commercial, Salem



Joseph Alsop



Stewart Alsop

Such was William Henry Taylor when one of these reporters first encountered him in the grim winter of 1942. In Stanley Camp we had had our Communist agents—little, black-voiced little Epsteins—little, black-voiced little Epsteins of the Serge ring and his tall, blonde English mistress, Elizabeth Chastanedeley, who might have been very beautiful if she had