

Oregon Statesman

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

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The End of an Era!

Accidents, bad weather and labor troubles have beset "the greatest show on earth" ever since it left its winter quarters in Florida, weeks ago, but even without these factors it appears that Monday's closure at Pittsburgh was inevitable in time.

In announcing the folding of the Barnum & Bailey and Ringling Bros., Board Chairman John Ringling North said: "The tented circus as it now exists is, in my opinion, a thing of the past." Contemplated is "an almost completely mechanically controlled exhibition."

It seems evident that an end of an era has been reached, an era reaching back through the Gay 90s and covering more than seven decades of a burgeoning economy which have seen the movie theater challenge the stage and television overshadow both, gasoline beat back the horse on road and farm, wings out-draw and outsped the Iron Horse.

Two other circuses shut down earlier this year. First, the Clyde Beatty circus, last of the big animal and stunt shows to travel by rail and frequent visitor to Salem, announced it was suspending. Then the King Brothers circus, a few weeks later, closed down in New England.

New entertainment mediums have been cutting into circus receipts for many years; communities no longer are so isolated that the circus' arrival is a major event; the huckster's chant hasn't the draw it had before such became commonplace via the ether waves; colorful parades were swept away long ago before the surge of modern traffic on city streets; open spaces for the acres of Big Top became scarcer and scarcer in proximity to patrons; costs have gone up and up and up.

Maybe we shouldn't count the circus out yet. But apparently it is going down for a long count. There are many among us who will admit to a sharp nostalgia for the fun and gaiety and childish shrieks its clowns, animals and other marvels brought forth.

New Fisheries Director

Mike Hoy, for 33 years on the staff of the State Fish Commission, and its director since 1954 when Arnie Suomela left to join the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has been replaced by Milton C. James, who is presently resident coordinator in Portland for the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission. Hoy will remain in the employ of the commission, duties not initially stated. The new appointee seems to be qualified for the directorship, judging by his varied experience which began in a state fish hatchery in Maine in 1915, followed by work as aquatic biologist with the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries and later as chief of the division of fish culture and assistant director of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The state directorship is a responsible one, covering administration of several fish hatcheries and enforcement of laws dealing with commercial fishing. Trying to keep up the salmon runs in the face of power dams, fishing regattas and competition from sports fishermen and tackle-sellers must be quite a chore.

The motorist's "roof of the world" so far as continental United States is concerned is the road on Mt. Evans, Colo., which goes to 14,260 feet—150 higher than Pike's Peak. Such statistics would seem to dwarf our 11,000-foot Cascades until one remembers that Colorado's mountains start out from mile-high terrain, not sea level.

U. S. Budget Balancing Try Termed Real Purpose of Proposed Defense Spending Cut

By JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSP

WASHINGTON — All sorts of elaborate theories have been put forward to justify the very heavy reductions in the armed forces which have been proposed by Secretary of Defense Charles Wilson and Admiral Arthur Radford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

But there is an informed man in the Pentagon who has the slightest private doubt that the theories are just so much camouflage for the following simple facts: The Eisenhower administration came to power committed to lower taxes and balance the budget. Both laudable objectives have largely been achieved, largely thanks to the "new look" defense policy which has permitted very sharp reductions in previously planned defense levels.

Even the "new look" however, would not have permitted a balanced budget for the current fiscal year if it had not been for an artificial process of "one shot" defense reductions. For the current fiscal year the armed services were told, in effect, to live off their capital in order to permit a balanced budget.

But it is not possible to live off capital forever. On the contrary, artificially low defense spending for one fiscal year spells artificially low defense spending for the next. Moreover, certain mili-

tary hardware — like the B-52 heavy bomber — is reaching the stage where it must be bought and paid for. Thus the administration's fiscal chickens are suddenly coming home to roost.

The powers that be in the administration have been horrified by the size of these unwelcome bills. For example, in order to maintain the agreed-upon force levels for the air force (which many air officers, like Gen. Curtis LeMay, consider already grossly inadequate) it will be necessary to up air force spending a cool \$6 billion in the next fiscal year.

Similarly, the artificial savings for the other two services must also be made up in the next fiscal year. Preliminary estimates by the services have put the overall increase in the neighborhood of \$12 billion. Final and official estimates must be submitted to Secretary Wilson by October 1st.

Some Must Wait for Roads

So much publicity has been given to the big federal largess for road building that various communities now hope to get their projects on the list for early construction. Spokesmen for some of them appeared at the meeting of the state highway commission last week. They learned that, while Oregon is to get a big chunk of federal money, most of it is to go on the interstate system of which only Highways 30 and 99 in Oregon are parts. There will be some more money for other primary highways and for secondary roads and for urban street work, but not in huge amounts. The sums to be received also are spread over a 13-year period. Some state money now can be shifted from the two interstates to other highways.

With a firm knowledge now of revenues to be available from federal sources the highway department will proceed to set up a new five-year plan covering all of the state system. A good many projects already have been approved and will be put under call for bids promptly. Others will await the necessary approval and planning. It will not be long before the accelerated spending will be felt; but even with all the money in sight not all the worthy projects can be authorized in the near future for lack of funds. There still will be a queue of applicants for road improvements when the federal grants are all allocated. And highway demands will continue to increase because of growth in population and in number of motor vehicles.

With the main highways being modernized the principal need is going to be in the cities. There is where the congestion is greatest, and there is where the costs are greatest. Large sums are going to be spent in Portland for example to expedite traffic flow. This is a task calling for the wise blend of engineering, economics and prophecy.

In the Salem area, since Highway 99 modernization from Portland through to Salem is nearing completion, the principal expenditure will be on the route south for relocation of 99 to bypass Albany and Eugene. The additional funds will permit earlier completion of the coast cutoff and the Santiam highway between Salem and Mehama.

It is disappointing to sponsors of road improvements to have their hopes further deferred. But if they look back over the span of 40 years (if their memories run that far back) they will realize what great improvements have been made in roads all over the state. Our present system is so far in advance of the mud (or dust) or gravel of the old roads (or their non-existence in many places) that one is reconciled to wait a little while longer for bringing other roads to improved standards.

Editorial Comment

BUBBLE OF FEAR DEFLATED

For some weeks Americans have been subjected to a campaign of fear—to make them believe that United States air power was in danger of falling behind the Soviet's. Whether for selfish or patriotic reasons, this drive has presented a distorted picture designed especially to get more money for big bombers. It succeeded to the extent that Congress added nearly a billion dollars to the defense budget for that purpose.

This was done not on the basis of exact knowledge but of estimates as to the amount of bomber construction in Russia. It was done against the advice of the President and the Defense Department. It was done without taking into consideration the quality of American air power or its total amount. In the light of General Twining's report on his Moscow visit, this drive and the response of Congress to it appear strange indeed.

The chief of the Air Force says "we have got to keep working," but that today the United States is ahead and he sees no reason why it should stay ahead. We do not see how the general could obtain any firm figure on the numbers of Soviet aircraft. Indeed, we believe the whole numbers game is a matter of guessing. But he and the experts accompanying him had an opportunity to judge quality, and they report curious highs and lows. On the whole, the Air Force chief is convinced the United States is ahead in quality.

This is not a subject on which any thoughtful person wishes to be complacent. Air power looks like the chief military deterrent of war and it must be kept up to the mark. But defense planning cannot be soundly based on bubbles of fear. It may now go forward on a firmer foundation because some air has now been let out of this one. (Christian Science Monitor).

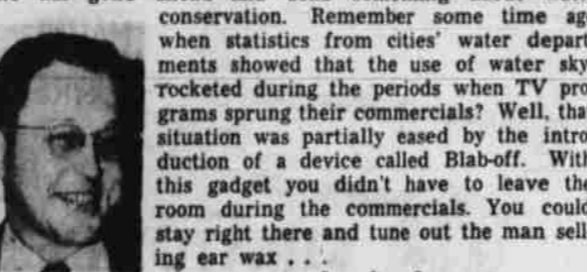
GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"I refuse to make health an issue in this campaign, Fight! Take the moans and groans out of this speech!"



While the politicians have been kicking the water power question around from one dam to another, some ahead and done something about water conservation. Remember some time ago when statistics from cities' water departments showed that the use of water skyrocketed during the periods when TV programs sprung their commercials? Well, that situation was partially eased by the introduction of a device called Blab-off. With this gadget you didn't have to leave the room during the commercials. You could stay right there and tune out the man selling ear wax . . .



The only thing wrong with Blab-off was that it used wires and things. And you couldn't switch channels. Now, however, comes Zenith Radio Corporation with a new push-button, remote control device, with which you can operate the TV receiver across the room. No wires, battery, lights or hypnosis. With this miracle machine you can change the program with one hand and reach for a snack with the other. No need to rush out and wash your hands or otherwise run up the water bill. Now if they could just do something about these summer repeat programs . . .

And speaking of electronics . . . Salem radio station KGAY gets a special commendation from Capt. Walter Lansing, Oregon traffic safety leader, for "contributing significantly" to the state's fatality-free July 4. The station's contribution was 40 brief pleas for driving caution, designed to be used at the end of each commercial (there's that word again), which it sent to many other radio stations in the valley, and most of them used the idea, too. "Public service of the highest order," Lansing called it . . .

Homer G. Lyon Jr., who quit the state forestry department several months ago and has since been hobnobbing with the big limbs in Washington, D. C., reports he is literally pining for the sight of a tall, cool Oregon fir . . . And Tom Enright, candidate for Marion County DA, is now back campaigning after a two-weeks enforced layoff. Worked a blister into his right hand. Couldn't Kefauver anymore, you know . . .

Is the GOP state central committee wrath with what it has wrought? When Salem library received its copy of that exciting bit of political fog-rolling, "The Documented Record of Sen. Wayne Morse," the envelope had the central committee's label and address in the return address space. But the committee's name was covered up with a sticky tape label, leaving just the address showing. The tape mask, incidentally, urges everyone to get out and vote . . .

Time Flies

FROM STATESMAN FILES

10 Years Ago

July 17, 1946

William E. Burke, 79, Republican state senator from Yamhill county since 1931, died of a heart attack at his home in Newberg. He sponsored the fortified wine bill passed by the 1942 legislature restricting sale of fortified wines to state stores.

25 Years Ago

July 17, 1921

Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Johnson are receiving congratulations upon the birth of a daughter. The young lady has been named Elizabeth James. Her sister is Marjorie Ann and she has a brother, John.

40 Years Ago

July 17, 1916

This week saw the loganberry season almost at its height, with the plants of the Northwest Fruit Products company and the Pleasant Fruit Juice company both working twenty-four hours a day to take care of the berries.

Better English

BY D. C. WILLIAMS

- 1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I have no desire at all to go in the house."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "abyss"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Peninsula, pinacle, parachute, paraphernalia.
4. What does the word "buoyant" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with "ex" that means "abnormal growth or increase"?

ANSWERS

1. Omit "at all," and say, "INTO the house." 2. Pronounce a-biss, accent on second syllable. 3. Paraphernalia. 4. Light-hearted. "His cheeks are buoyant, his steps buoyant." 5. Excrescence.

Sharp Cuts in U.S. Armed Forces Get High Level Support

WASHINGTON — Several high administration leaders were reported firmly backing Monday a hotly debated Defense Department move to slash the size of American armed forces, perhaps drastically.

No final decision is expected for several months, perhaps not until after the November election. But well qualified authorities reported Monday that in their view substantial cuts in Army, Navy

and Air Force manpower would not endanger the objectives of American policy overseas. They stressed these reasons:

1. Sharp manpower cuts would not necessarily shock overseas allies, even if they involved withdrawal or "thinning out" of five American divisions now in Western Europe. A growing feeling in Europe that the North Atlantic pact countries can reduce their armed forces without jeopardizing their security.

2. In view of what is interpreted the reduced threat of war, it may not be necessary for Western Germany to mobilize all 12 divisions it has pledged under Atlantic Pact strategy. Still, a substantial contribution from the Germans will be necessary.

3. Russia, it is believed, soon will make sharp reductions in the strength of its vast army, navy and air force. The Soviets announced in April they would slash their armed forces by 1,200,000 men, down to about 3,000,000 and Premier Bulganin challenged the West to follow suit.

4. Britain, too, plans to reduce manpower in its armed forces, adjusting its reduced strength more around use of new atomic-hydrogen weapons.

5. It will be extremely difficult to balance the budget and cut taxes at home unless there are defense force cuts, mainly because of the tremendous cost of new weapons now becoming virtually standard equipment.

800,000-Man Force The New York Times reported last Friday that Adm. Arthur W. Radford, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, is proposing to reduce the manpower strength of the Army, Navy and Air Force by 800,000 men by 1960. At present, there are 2,863,250 in the armed services.

Radford, while not specifically denying the Times story, described it as a "mixture of fact and pure speculation." He said a review of manpower requirements is underway and added that he might be the total "can ultimately be lower because of the introduction of new weapons."

Files the Plans Mobilization director Arthur S. Flemming said the shortened schedule of this year's alert "fits in better" with President Eisenhower's plans and will allow enough time "to accomplish all we need to do."

Eisenhower will remain at his office Friday instead of going to the "hideaway White House" for the alert. Late in the day he will fly to Panama City for a conference of American heads of state.

Stained Statue Due for Bath, Renovation

PORTLAND — Renovation of the historic Skidmore fountain, including a new wash job for its three Grecian maids, got another periodic boost Monday.

Mayor Fred L. Peterson inspected the fountain and said he would ask the city's Fine Arts Commission for a recommendation on future handling. He also recommended that care of the fountain be turned over to the Bureau of Parks.

The bronze figures were stained last week when city workmen attempted to clean them with acid. This formed yellow and orange streaks. Apparently the damage was only superficial and the maids can be restored to their former beauty.

The fountain, standing since 1888 in a triangular space formed by the intersection of several downtown streets, once was near Portland's cultural center. Now it is surrounded by warehouses and old buildings.

Various groups have appealed in the past for renovation of the fountain.

Hooded Pair Rob Couple At Coos Bay

COOS BAY — A Coos Bay store manager and his wife told Monday how two hooded men left them bound and gagged on a dead-end street after forcing them to open a safe. The men fled with an undetermined amount of money.

The couple, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Ford, said the robbers accosted them as they arrived home from a picnic Sunday evening. After binding Mrs. Ford and ordering the husband to get his store keys, the men drove to Ford's store and had him open the safe. It contained weekend receipts.

After the robbers fled, Mrs. Ford's screams aroused neighbors who called police.

Mrs. Ford said one of the men said he and his accomplice recently served five-year sentences in the Washington State Penitentiary.

Log Rolls on Worker In Tillamook Mishap

FOREST GROVE — A log being pulled from a canyon rolled on a workman in northeast Tillamook County Monday, killing him outright.

The victim, John H. Burns, 52, Cornelius, was employed on the Shelton Bros. logging job.

There are enough standing trees in the U.S. to build a six-room house for every man, woman and child in the country.

Portland Marks 7th Polio Case of Year

PORTLAND — Dr. Thomas L. Meador, city health officer, said Monday one new case of polio was reported here last week. The victim was a 7-year-old boy living in the southeast district.

It was the seventh case of the disease on record in Portland this year. At this time last year there were 17 cases, Dr. Meador said.

BOYS ADMIT DERAILMENT

KENTVILLE, N.S. — Four boys ranging in age from 7 to 13 have admitted derailing a mixed freight and passenger train near here last month. They said they broke the switch lock, threw the switch and were unable to get it back before the train arrived. None was hurt in the derailment.

Dr. Sam K. Hughes OPTOMETRIST

New Location 1128 Center St. Across From Owl Drug PH. 4-0767

Ad Prize

Senate Okehs State Grants To Aged, Blind

WASHINGTON — The Senate Monday night voted to increase federal grants to the states for needy aged, blind and disabled persons so they would get at least \$5 a month more.

The 62-21 vote was the first test on the long-stymied social security bill which passed the House a year ago.

It represented a defeat for the Eisenhower administration. The amendment, sponsored by Sen. Long (D-La.) and 43 other members, would raise public assistance grants to 2 1/2 million aged persons, 250,000 totally disabled persons, and 105,000 blind persons. It would take effect Oct. 1 this year.

Opposed by Ike The total additional cost to the federal government is estimated at 200 million dollars annually.

The administration opposed the proposal because of this cost and because it again would increase the federal share of the assistance programs, originally conceived as a plan for which the states would have the largest responsibility.

The provision is not in the House bill, so that its fate will have to be settled in conference.

The Long amendment would change the matching formula which governs the three aid programs. Under it, the federal government would pay 25 of the first \$30 in monthly payment grants to the needy persons, and half of the next \$35 up to a total of \$65.

Major Item on Agenda At present, the federal government pays \$30 of the first \$25 and half of the next \$30 up to a total of \$55.

Thus, under the Long proposal Uncle Sam would put up \$42.50 of the first \$65 for states which pay that much. Under present law it is \$25 of the first \$55.

The average monthly payments over the nation in May this year were \$54.37 to the needy aged \$60.45 to the blind, \$56.88 to the disabled.

The social security bill is one of the major items of legislative business left for the 1956 session.

San Diego Shaken Up By Mild Earthquake

LOS ANGELES — A mild earthquake swayed chandeliers in San Diego and was felt in some sections of Los Angeles County Monday.

California Institute of Technology seismologists said the center was about 200 miles south of Los Angeles.

Caltex seismographs also recorded a large earthquake about 9,000 miles distant, with three epicenters probably around the Indian Ocean, and two light quakes in Japan.

A 200-pound hog will produce five pounds of spare ribs.

Stamm & Son BOX OFFICE TICKETS NOW ON SALE

Pentacle Theatre "Death of a Salesman" JULY 16-21

GET THEIR DONKEY RUMSON, N. J. (AP)—No donkey is going to make donkeys out of Rumson police. Two patrolmen, one on foot and the other in a police car, were led on a 30-minute chase by a runaway donkey before catching the balky beast with a rope.

Welcome News FOR BUSINESSMEN With Less Than 25 Employees

A Prudential Employee Security Program provides the kind of employee security that once was available only to larger companies.

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