

Oregon Statesman

No Favor Sways Us. No Fear Shall Awe. From First Statesman, March 24, 1851

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No Governor's Mansion in Oregon

Publication of the news item that Governor-elect Robert Holmes had rented a home in Salem for occupancy during his coming two-year term, stirred two editors to comment on the need for an executive mansion in Salem.

The Corvallis Gazette-Times was also alerted by the same news. Editor Ingalls recites the tenancies of various governors from Meier on down to Governor Smith who purchased a home which presumably he will vacate and sell after he retires from office.

The G-T is correct in its comment that most private residences which can be rented or purchased are not suitable for the official receptions which a governor must hold. It goes on to say:

"If anything is to be done it should be the construction of a home built especially for the function which it is to serve. There should be ample living quarters and privacy for the family as well as enough room for the social functions the job requires."

The Capitol Planning Commission, which was created by act of the 1949 legislature for the purpose of establishing and effectuating a long-range plan of development of the capital area in the city of Salem, will pose as one of its questions whether or not space should be set aside for a Governor's Mansion within the Capitol area.

With such a push, we may be sure the next Legislature will have this item for consideration. Once before when Governor Snell had to move during his term, an appropriation for an executive mansion failed by a narrow margin, being caught in the down-draft at the session ending.

Of course, since Oregon changes governors with great frequency, perhaps the solution would be for the incumbent to arrive in a trailer or "mobile home." His wife couldn't hold many large receptions there, but they would have a place to sleep at any rate, and could move on easily after the next election.

The arguments on this question are not all on one side. The family needs of governors vary, also their interest in the social activities which often attach to political personages. Health considerations affect their manner of living. In these days much entertaining is done at hotels. Mrs. Elmo Smith for example held a formal reception at a local hotel where the accommodations were ample. While Oregon provides no mansion, it does give the governor an expense allowance which may be used to take care of such social obligations as fall to the holder of the office.

We know one wife of an ex-governor who feels very strongly the state should provide a suitable residence for the governor, so he would not have to house-burn when he comes to Salem. We know an ex-governor, however, who remains something of a skeptic on this question, in view of changing conditions of modern living. In the largest cities the big

private mansions are being deserted as families take more modest quarters in apartments or the suburbs and do their entertaining at clubs or hotels.

Oregon does provide its college and university heads and superintendents of institutions with residences, so probably it will get around to providing one for its governor.

FHA Interest Rate Raised

Saturday the Federal Housing Administration announced the permissible interest rate on FHA-insured homes would be raised to five per cent. The present rate is four and one-half per cent. The additional one-half per cent insurance premium remains. This will make the maximum interest five and one-half per cent on insured loans. The rate on housing loans to veterans remains at four and one-half per cent maximum since it is fixed by law.

The change was authorized in recognition of prevailing higher interest rates. Without doubt the authorities hope that it will stimulate house construction which has been decreasing in recent months partly because of the scarcity of credit at the old rate. This will be good news for lumber manufacturers who have seen sales drop off and prices decline since midsummer.

The government is by no means happy over increases in interest rates. After all it is a heavy borrower itself. Much of its debt is short term which means that renewals are frequent and an increase in the interest rate takes immediate effect. Just now new government note issues carry an effective interest rate of a fraction over three per cent. The budget item for interest alone will pass seven billion dollars in the next fiscal year.

The treasury faces another problem in having heavy maturities of term bonds next year—some \$40 billion to be refunded. Placing of these refundings will require care as to timing lest the general market for credit be upset, and care as to terms so the bonds will be readily marketable and yet not too "sweet" at cost to the government.

It is most unfortunate that Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey wasn't able to get farther in the funding of the accumulated short-term indebtedness. With inflation again raising its ugly head and with new pressures for bigger defense spending, the economy is reaching a peril point. The Federal Reserve Board's manipulation of rediscount rates is not a powerful enough lever to control the whole credit structure. The outlook, therefore, is for "choppy seas" in the world of business and finance.

Decline in residence construction has affected the lumber market. Perhaps one reason for the former is the rise in demand for mobile homes, built out of steel or aluminum. Sales of these trailer homes, many of which do little over-the-road trailing, will run to an estimated half-billion dollars this year. Some 115,000 of them carried a price tag of around \$5,000, so they are not cheap. Trailer parks number about 12,000 and represent an investment of another half-billion dollars. So it looks as though trailers, or mobile homes if you prefer the term, are here to stay, even if the units are "gone tomorrow."

Editorial Comment

PUT 'CHRIST' BACK IN CHRISTMAS

The junior chamber of commerce members are to be commended for selecting a religious theme for their city-wide Christmas season display contest this year. Public sentiment has been growing in recent years to again center the Christmas celebration on the Nativity—the birth of Jesus Christ. The theme of this year's contest in Woodburn is another step in the right direction.

Santa Claus, gifts and a decorated tree are traditional parts of Christmas in this country and probably will always continue. However, they have become so overemphasized as to largely overshadow the true religious background of the Christmas celebration. The current Jaycee contest will help point up the fact that Christmas is to celebrate the birth of Christ first and that the other traditional elements of the Yule season are just pleasant sidelines.—Woodburn Independent.



IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1.)

against Germany and Austria, and the United States became involved in 1917.

The Treaty of Versailles left Austria impotent and Germany defeated. Turkey, which had sided with Germany and Austria, lost much of its Asian territory (previously its hold on North Africa and Egypt had been lost). While it retained a toehold in Europe at Constantinople, renamed Istanbul, its lost Asian territory was organized into a number of succession states: Syria and Lebanon under French protection, Iraq and Trans-Jordan and Palestine under British mandate. Saudi Arabia had previously established its independence. To the normal difficulties attending the birth of the independent nations was added the establishment in Palestine, under the Balfour Declaration of 1917, of a "Jewish National Home." This led to the conflict between the Israeli and the Arab who persistently embitter relations, between the Arab states and the Western nations which sponsored the new state of Israel.

make it the pawn of power politics. One would expect history to repeat itself with a succession of border incidents and small wars which might explode into general warfare. United Nations offers a barrier—a moral barrier—such a development, and fear of the catastrophe of an atomic world war acts as a deterrent. These are two strands of hope.

Even the Balkan states made some progress toward peace with the passing of years. In 1934 Turkey, Greece, Yugoslavia and Romania made a treaty for mutual guarantee of frontiers. After the second world war Yugoslavia, Greece and Turkey arrived at a mutual understanding, which was put under great strain, however, by the conflict regarding Cyprus. So time may act as a mediator within the Middle East countries and in their relations with the greater powers who covet the region's riches.

Sec. Wilson To Attend NATO Confab

By ELTON C. FAY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1 (AP)—Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson will head for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization conference in Paris a week hence. There he will face again the question whether the United States plans reduction of its forces in Western Europe.

The question has new meaning at this NATO meeting, for several reasons:

1. The continuing reduction in U.S. Army manpower.

2. The suggestions of Russia—unsubstantiated for propaganda purposes—that she will withdraw her forces from occupied areas if the United States pulls its troops out of Europe.

3. The apparently still remote possibility that the NATO structure itself might crumble because of tensions among its leading members—the United States on one hand, Britain and France on the other.

Up to now, Wilson has insisted that the steadily progressing cut in total Army manpower is not affecting the combat effectiveness of the five Army divisions in Western Europe. Whatever trimming has been done in Army troops in Europe, Wilson has insisted, has been among service-type, support troops, not in fighting elements.

However, Wilson leaves for the Paris session fresh from budget-making meetings. At those meetings, the "force levels" of the military services for the next fiscal year are determined. A decision to accelerate the reduction of total Army manpower could compel some changes in combat strength in the five divisions assigned to NATO forces.

At the NATO sessions, which begin formally on Dec. 11, the foreign ministers and defense ministers of the member nations will ratify troop strength plans for the coming year.

The Soviet hints about a mutual withdrawal of Russian and U.S. troops to their own territories are described here as another insincere play of Soviet political strategists. Disbelief tinged any discussion of the possibility that the Western European military alliance might fall to pieces.

Cuba's Chief Acts to Crush Rebel Forces

(Picture on Wirephoto Page.)

HAVANA, Cuba, Dec. 1 (AP)—President Fulgencio Batista tonight suspended constitutional guarantees in four provinces and sped troop reinforcements to rebellious Santiago de Cuba.

The government insisted it had stamped out organized resistance of rebel civilians, but sniping continued.

Cel Mario Rubio Baro, chief of the Santiago Naval District, said the frigate Masca was fired on by a 50-caliber machine gun from a house on Santiago de Cuba Bay.

The frigate Siboney was reported patrolling the southeast coast off Santiago.

Reports from Santiago said a man was shot dead by police when he ignored a command to halt. This brought to 13 the number of persons slain in the uprising against Batista's government yesterday.

The rebels were believed to number about 200. They tried to seize the national police and maritime police stations. Troops now are being sent in by air and sea to mop them up.

Batista signed a decree suspending for 45 days the constitutional guarantees of free speech and assembly in the provinces of Oriente—in which Santiago is located—Pinar del Rio, Las Villas and Camaguey.

This decree embraces all Cuba but the provinces of Havana and Matanzas. And saboteurs were reported at work in Matanzas, next door to Havana.

Military planes were used throughout the day in reconnaissance in Oriente Province, stronghold of the rebels. The government has named Fidel Castro, a former student leader, as the leader of the rebellion. His whereabouts are not known but until recently he had been living in exile in Mexico.

Portland-Salt Lake Buses Remain Idle

PORTLAND, Dec. 1 (AP)—Northwest Greyhound buses on the Portland-Salt Lake City run were idle again today and company officials said they could see no hope of change before Monday at the earliest. Drivers walked out Wednesday in protest to discharge of one of them. The company said the man was fired because he failed to stop at railroad crossings.

Many Flee Commies

BERLIN, Dec. 1 (AP)—West Berlin's refugee center has registered 150,000 refugees from Communist East Germany this year. This is nearly 10,000 more than were registered in the same period last year.

Slow Bidding, Satisfactory Prices Mark Milking Shorthorn Sale Here

By LILLIE L. MADSEN Farm Editor, The Statesman Slow bidding, but comparatively satisfactory prices, marked the seventh annual sale of the Oregon Milking Shorthorn Breeders Association held Saturday afternoon at the Oregon State Fairgrounds.

"We would have liked higher prices, of course," James C. Adams, Jefferson, sale committee chairman; said, "but considering prices being paid for animals in the sale rings recently, we are not complaining. Anyway all our animals sold and we did not have to take any home as has been done at some recent cattle sales."

The 28 females sold brought a total of \$4,500 for an average of \$162. The sale was held in the small animal auction ring at the fairgrounds, where heat was maintained throughout the afternoon, keeping bidders warm and good natured. Wives of the cattlemen sold coffee and waffles throughout the three and a half hour event. "All you can eat for 25 cents." They reported they "broke even" on materials, and donated their time.

Out-of-State Buyers About half of the animals went out of Oregon, many of them to new breeders in the Milking Short-

horn business. W. E. Eckard, Toledo, Wash., who bought four animals, said that he had been running 50 milk cows of a cross between Milking Shorthorns and Guernseys, and liked the cross so well that he decided to try some purebred Shorthorns. LeRoy and Myrna Sather, a couple of Howell Prairie 4-H Clubbers, each bought an animal to start out on 4-H projects.

Salem Auctioneer The sale was cried by Earl Gillespie, Salem, with James Jorgensen, Jefferson, president of the state club, assisting about the sale committee were Charles R. Ledy, Oregon City; Verne Bronson, Eugene; W. M. Merritt, Yakima, Wash., and Roger Dumdi, Yamhill.

List of sales were: Consigned by Harry and Thelma Throde, Chehalis, Wash., to W. L. Eckard, Toledo, Wash., for \$265; to Mrs. William Metzler, Mossy Rock, Wash., for \$200; and to Earl Squire, Hughson, Calif., for \$75. By Rose Brock, Albany, to James Jorgensen, Jefferson, for \$125. By James C. Adams, Jefferson, to W. E. Boss, Jr., Salem, for \$160. By Harry Wicks, McMinnville, to Roy Streeter, McMinnville, for \$148; to James Jorgensen, \$140. By Paul E. Muller, Tangent, to Oakway Farms, Tillamook, for \$170. By Edgar P. Denning, Portland, to T. J. Allison, Noti, for \$140. By C. R. and C. U. Ledy, Oregon City, to Verne Bronson, Eugene, for \$250; to Earl Squire, Hughson, Calif., for \$135. By R. G. Stearns, Lebanon, to W. L. Eckard, for \$265; to Rose Brothers, for \$160. Salem Buyers

By Chesley D. Tippery, Kelso, Wash., to Roscoe E. Clark, Salem, for \$170. By Chris J. Jorgensen, Jefferson, to Rose Bros., for \$210; to Bruce and June Grosvener, for \$95. By J. H. and M. L. Vanice, Halsey, to LeRoy Satter, Salem, for \$140. By C. H. Farmer, Beaver, to

Oakway Farm, for \$105. By H. Lundquist & Son, Newberg, to Brooknook Farms, Yamhill, for \$265; to Eckhart for \$180; to Chesley D. Tippery, Kelso, Wash., for \$300; to Myrna La Satter, Salem, for \$155. By Brooknook Farms, McMinnville, to Eckard, for \$265; to M. H. Gildersleeve, Albany, for \$215; to Earl Squire, for \$135. By J. C. Godknecht, Dufer, to Bruce Grosvener, for \$148; to T. J. Allison, for \$135. By Paul E. Muller, Tangent, to Lora B. Nix, Tacoma, Wash., for \$60.



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Police Troops Of U.N. Widen Peace Zone

By LEONARD LEDDINGTON U.N. OCCUPIED ZONE, Egypt, Dec. 1 (AP)—Danish infantrymen widened their peace zone on the Suez Canal today and set up house-keeping under the blue and white flag of the United Nations.

The flag was hoisted on a 15-foot strip of second-hand lumber to denote occupation by U.N. police of the battle line where a cease-fire order halted the British-French drive just north of Qantara Nov. 7.

A company of 163 blue-helmeted Danes, which relieved British forces west of the canal yesterday took over foxholes of a French Foreign Legion platoon east of the canal today.

The Egyptians kept their old front-line positions. About a mile of territory, including the U. N. buffer zone, now separates the two armies.

The old battleground of sand and swamp was ringed with U.N. roadblocks to cover a sector 1,000 yards long and about 900 yards wide.

At noon the zone was officially closed to all but U.N. personnel. Even reporters from neutral nations were ordered out if they were not uniformed as war correspondents accredited to the British or French armies.

A U.N. detachment of 26 Canadian engineers did some mine-sweeping for the Danes along the Egyptian front and came up with three antipersonnel mines described as of Russian manufacture.

Mines Secret "The Egyptians don't seem to know exactly, or are reticent in telling us, where their mines are," said Capt. Norman Henderson, commander of the Canadian detail. "So we're taking no chances."

The British had assured the Danes yesterday there were no mines in the no-man's-land adjoining the British positions. The French Legionnaires relieved today cleared their own minefields before withdrawing.

The Danish police, commanded by Maj. N. C. Larsen, erected tents and dug entrenchments. Some, off duty, stripped and swam in the canal. Others fished from rowboats.

News From Syria, Iraq Means Nasser Erasing All British Power in Mideast

By JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1—Even now, with British troops still on Egyptian soil, Egypt's Pres. Abdel Nasser is boldly moving ahead to destroy the last vestige of British power in the Middle East.

That is the real meaning of the confusing news from Syria and Iraq.

The basic facts are simple enough. Lt. Col. Abdel Hamid Serraj, Syria's pro-Nasser nationalist, is working hand in hand in Iraq against Nuri. And the powerful Cairo radio is another useful instrument of propaganda and subversion. Finally, threats and hints of threats from Nasser's powerful friends in Moscow are also effective in this situation.

Consider the meaning of the situation in the British. The oil from Iraq and from Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar on the Persian Gulf are as essential to Britain as blood is to the human body. The British are openly pledged to fight rather than abandon the Persian Gulf oil sources. Yet if they lose their bases in Iraq as well as in Jordan, there is almost no way they could protect the Persian Gulf oil against Arab attack.

This obscure going-on in Syria and Iraq, which seem too distant and unreal to most Americans, amount in fact to a joint Egyptian-Soviet push to destroy Britain since not for all as a great power, and even as a viable economy.

It has been said that Nasser is on a Communist—and at times he is not. But the fact that he is not does not really matter a

which supports Serraj.

There are several means available to Serraj to please his joint masters, and bring old Nuri field down. Iraq is totally dependent economically on its oil revenues.

Most of Iraq's oil is carried in two pipelines which pass through Syria. These pipelines have been sabotaged, and they are likely to stay sabotaged until Nuri is brought down. Iraq is already beginning to feel the pinch.

Subversion is another means. There have already been anti-Nuri riots in Baghdad, and Nuri has been obliged to declare martial law. Both Communists and pro-Nasser nationalists are working hand in hand in Iraq against Nuri. And the powerful Cairo radio is another useful instrument of propaganda and subversion. Finally, threats and hints of threats from Nasser's powerful friends in Moscow are also effective in this situation.

In short, if the British and French withdraw "forthwith," in accordance with the U. S.-supported United Nations resolution, Nasser's triumph will be complete. Nuri's fate will be sealed, and the Middle East will in the end go down the drain, as far as Western influence and interests are concerned. It is thus not entirely surprising that the British and French are now seriously considering digging in their heels, defying Washington and Moscow, and refusing to evacuate Egypt without at least some commitment on the future of the canal.

If they do dig in their heels it will make endless further trouble, and they will no doubt be very naughty. But since the only official American response to the predictable results of Nasser's triumph is that "we'll just have to play it by ear," one can hardly blame them.

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while, since his central purpose and the Soviet central purpose in the Middle East are precisely the same—to eliminate all Western interests in the area, ultimately including American interests.

Nasser and the Soviets are, moreover, in a fair way to gain this end. For if the British and French now withdraw from Egypt, under the oddly combined pressure of the United States and the Soviet Union, Nasser will of course be the rock of the West throughout the Middle East. Defeated utterly by the Israelis, faced with the combined might of Britain and France, he will emerge absolutely unscathed, without having been even asked to make a single commitment about the future of the Suez Canal, the Western nations' access to vital oil resources, Israel's frontier, or any other important issue.

The Middle East has become "balkanized," fragmented into small and hostile states. Its strategic position and its oil reserves

Time Flies

FROM STATESMAN FILES

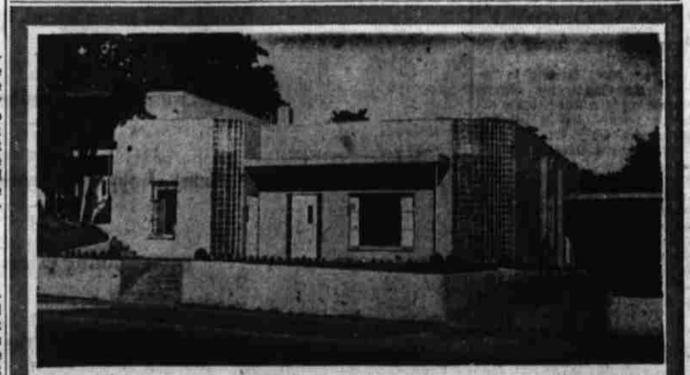
10 Years Ago Dec. 3, 1946 Lee Demoyt resigned Tuesday as superintendent of the state penitentiary at the state penitentiary.

25 Years Ago Dec. 3, 1931 The goal set by the Community Services Committee in the drive to aid the needy and unemployed here this winter is \$20,000.

40 Years Ago Dec. 3, 1916 An editorial in The Statesman supports the flax industry experiment at the state prison and concludes "Once fairly started, the industry will grow from within itself, in fact, there will be no stopping its growth."

Letter From Marilyn

CHESTER, England, Dec. 1 (AP)—Jeremy Spenser, 19, graduating from a military school here, said among his letters of congratulations was one from Marilyn Monroe. He declined to say what she said. Spenser recently worked with Miss Monroe in a film she made in England.



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