

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher

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Government Guessing Game

In rejoinder to The Statesman's reference to the "full employment" bill as crackpot, the esteemed Oregon Farmer Union lists names of prominent individuals and organizations that have endorsed it. This "argument from authority" has certain potency to be sure. An imposing list in opposition might be offered as counter-authority; but it is better to go to the root of the matter in debate.

The title "full employment" is most inviting. No one will deny the desirability of full employment for all seeking and needing work. Recollections of the late depression, when millions were unemployed still haunts the country. But there is a big difference between endorsing full employment and supporting the particular bill introduced by Senator Murray and passed, with certain amendments, by the senate. The Murray bill provides no employment for anybody except government economists and clerks. To the extent that the public thinks it does they are deceived.

The senate version of the Murray bill provides that the president "for the ensuing fiscal year and such longer period" as he may deem appropriate shall estimate the number of jobs needed for full employment, the production of goods and services at full employment and the volume of investment and expenditure required to purchase such goods and services. The president in making this "employment budget" shall forecast the current and foreseeable trends in the number of job opportunities, and propose a general program for assuring continuous full employment together with such recommendations for legislation as he may deem desirable. A provision of the bill saves the government from any definite financial commitment.

Success of such a program would depend on (1) accuracy in forecasting, (2) laying out of a practical public works program to absorb the unemployed, (3) an economically feasible plan of financing the government expenditure required. The record in late years does not justify the hope that these essentials would be realized.

Take the matter of forecasting unemployment. On Aug. 11 last government officials were quoted as predicting that 4,000,000 persons would be unemployed within 60 days after V-J day. On Aug. 15 the war manpower commission estimated that unemployment might exceed 5,000,000 within three months and reach 6,200,000 by mid-December. On Aug. 30, John W. Snyder, reconversion director, told the ways and means committee "that the inescapable fact was that unemployment would be severe, reaching perhaps 6,000,000 by the end of the year and 8,000,000 by early spring. The latter figure was repeated on Oct. 1st by the office of war mobilization and reconversion.

These are the estimates of government economists, covering a brief period of from 60 days to six months ahead. These estimates proved widely inaccurate. The census estimate on unemployment for October was only 1,500,000, which is 2,500,000 fewer than was predicted by government experts. Even with strikes the higher figure has not been reached, and now the estimates of the unemployment have dropped from 8,000,000 to 4- or 5,000,000.

If the ablest statisticians in government service cannot chart the short future of three or six months with greater accuracy how can we expect them to do a better job for a period from six to 18 months in advance which would be required under the Murray bill?

If the government, relying on its estimates of 8,000,000 unemployed, had set up public works to absorb this labor then its program would have been competed for materials, supplies and labor with the building program of industry and private citizens, building more fire under the gasbag of inflation.

The treasury, with long experience in estimating government receipts and expenditures, has had only indifferent success in its prophecies. In the 20 years since the bureau of the budget was created the estimate of treasury receipts has been "off" an average of 13 per cent, and of expenditures an average of 18 per cent. To forecast the whole economy of public and private spending is far more complicated and can be little more than refined guessing. Yet the advocates of the Murray bill would have the government set up great federal programs on the doubtful base of these estimates.

As far as financing is concerned we have seen no plan for meeting the cost of the contemplated public works. Unless the government is to be a hypocrite it would have to carry out its make-work program—and pay for it. Neither Senator Murray nor others have outlined any financial plan which should accompany the building program. The presumption is that deficit financing would be relied on; which merely means to pile up wrath against a day of wrath.

There is one country, to be sure, where all the economic planning is done by government. It does not have to worry about financing because it can withhold taxes from wages and fix prices to yield profits to the government. But the device for absorbing excess labor is the work camp where criminals and dissenters may be sent to work for meagre sustenance at government projects. The Murray plan ostensibly is a crutch to the capitalist system. Actually it points toward the machinery of the socialist state.

With nothing in the record to convince us that the government's estimates would prove valid, with no commitment by the government to provide any employment and no plan of financing that which might be assumed, The Statesman feels that it used a proper adjective to describe the so-called full employment bill.

Breakfasts 2500 Miles Apart

This airplane speed business is getting something like the national debt—just about beyond comprehension—and scientists are having a field day again figuring out the so-called maximum possibilities.

It wasn't enough for last week to disclose that the moon was being bombarded by radar. It also brought a 4½-hour crossing of the United States—posing the rather breath-taking potentiality that a speed increase of only 25 per cent would see planes keeping pace with the sun. If such were the case, an 8 a. m. breakfast in New York could be supplemented by an 8 a. m. breakfast in San Francisco the same day.

Or to put it another way, an east-west plane would be landed in San Francisco before it had been heard going over Reno. (The pilot of the non-stop jet plane estimated that during the 4½-hour crossing he was travelling less than 30 miles an hour slower than sound.)

The jet-ship made the 2470 miles at an average of 584 miles an hour, and reached a maximum of 660. And it was only 15 years ago that plaudits were going to Wiley Post and Harold Gatty for averaging 140 miles an hour for the 2200 miles between Newfoundland and England; 14 years ago that Amelia Earhart averaged the same from Harbor Grace to Ireland.

What atom-power would do to a plane is yet unknown, but with such transcendently-interesting developments current and in the immediate offing, at least it seems that the world is as full of fascinating portent as it is of imminent danger. And what fun it would be if the latter element were eliminated!

Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 28—All signs from within point to the food shortage continuing another year—or more.

The man who came into the Truman cabinet so clear-mindedly to cure shortages, Agriculture Secretary Anderson, has run into the usual Washington dead end for the ambitious. The old gang in his department, the administrators and sub-administrators of the Wallace new-dealing regime, has passively resisted him. He is "in bad" with them, as the insiders themselves put it.

And, then, when he came out for a new program to abandon the parity price concept and to accept the world price theory in some respects, the farm folks and their lobbies here started letting him down.

This is what is behind the rumors occasionally printed late in some of the columns that he has lost Mr. Truman's confidence and may retire. Indeed some who have their noses to the White House pane suspect the old gang is grooming a successor, Milton Eisenhower, brother of the chief of staff. Eisenhower is more of a new deal politico than the general. Certainly it is difficult to see how Anderson can survive. His novel price theory is contrary to what he does in his own milk producing business in Albuquerque.

There he sells what milk the market will take at the highest possible price, and lets his surplus go for whatever it will bring. The idea of abandoning the parity notion made the farm bureau federation right mad. And the opposing crowd in the Farmers Union turned against him when he named Lassiter instead of Hudgins to farm security.

When he was in congress, Mr. Anderson knew just what to do. The objectivity of his post here permitted him clear vision. But when he took the cabinet seat, to face the clique which ran his department (as cliques of subordinates dominate the top men of all these government departments), he immediately became involved, and each week plunged him into deeper involvement.

Remember how Mr. Truman came in announcing how closely he would work with congress. Now before his first year is out, he is involved in such a desperate struggle with congress, he is asking people to propagandize against them. The loudest cheer for his recent message came not from the chastised legislators, but from Sidney Hillman of CIO. The confidence of business which he enjoyed at the outset slipped perceptibly also with the rejection of his wage compromise by both steel and motors.

Fall Under Spells of Bureaucracy

I have rarely seen this process to fail. The human personality rarely is able to surmount it. Outside of bureaucracy, men may see clearly and devise clearcut programs. As soon as they get in the seats of power, they fall under the spells of bureaucracy, adulation, and the politics of the self-perpetuating old gangs—or resisting, become involved in self-thwarting struggles.

The secret of Mr. Anderson's troubles, however, I suspect, are the same as the reasons why the food shortages will continue beyond another crop. His conflicts with the clique and lobbies are superficial reflections of a deeper cause, namely: farmers are afraid of abundance. The farm leaders think they can easily produce too much for this country, know they cannot sell much abroad, and hence by nature resist any abundance theory.

Relief Deemed Far Away

Wheat was hurt by weather and much of the seeding did not come up. Meat production, already short, is being permanently damaged by the strike, which keeps stock feeding on the farms at this season and hence is likely to result in a feed shortage. Poultry supplies are being drained by the meat shortage. Eggs may be plentiful for a while in the spring, but not for long. Vegetables fluctuate, but there should be enough if the weather is favorable, yet if Britain spends 25 per cent of her loan for our short foods, and we try feeding the world as everyone seems to want, our meager prospects will be still further endangered.

It is impossible, therefore, to expect relief from the food shortage anytime soon.



Graveyard of Ships

The Literary Guidepost

By Paul Frigens

SANTA FE, by James Marshall (Random House, \$3.75).

You would hardly expect to start the longest railroad in the United States on \$200 cash and a dream but Cyrus K. Holliday did it. His monument is the vast Santa Fe system and, in a measure, the mighty empire it opened from the Kansas prairies to the Pacific. The Santa Fe also spells romance for most of its mileage and James Marshall "highballs" through the exciting years from the Civil War to the present with scarcely a dull incident. His book, complete with 32 pages of historic photographs, statistical charts, a glossary of Santa Fe place names and railroad slang, should stand for a long time as a model of research and lively, documented reading.

While his neighbors smiled at his optimism, Colonel Holliday turned the first dirt for the Santa Fe near the banks of the Kaw river in Topeka, Kansas, on a bleak day in October, 1868. He said then he would meet the ships of the Orient and tap the wealth of the western mountains. Holliday and the trail blazers who succeeded him battled their way to the Pacific, the Gulf and the Rockies. The Santa Fe went broke and started over. It juggled the necessities and the little luxuries of life to the frontier and hauled the wheat, corn, cattle and the wealth of the mines back to market. Through drought and depression, grasshopper plagues and Indian uprisings, blizzard flood the Santa Fe carried on. Settlers might quit, but the Santa Fe never, says Marshall. It emerged to face its heaviest task in World War II and, like other railroads, contributed mightily to victory.

The Santa Fe follows much of the old, original Santa Fe trail. Marshall's book recalls the roaring days of Bat Masterson, Jesse Chisholm, Jesse James and similar characters. Here also is the story of the opening of Indian territory in Oklahoma and the coming of the meticulous Fred Harvey and the "Harvey Girls" who brought good food and good manners to the roughest stops on the Santa Fe route. Mr. Marshall's is an "extra-fare" book!

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued From Page 1)

"immortals." At that they will find plenty of company among the others who are rescued from obscurity by having their sculptured forms and names from the endless file of visitors to the capitol.

It was in 1864 that congress, observing the cobwebs and hucksters' counters in the old hall of representatives, voted to establish statutory hall, permitting each state to place there two statues of deceased persons who had been distinguished in American life. While not all the states have availed themselves of the privilege, so many have that the statues have overflowed the old hall and now occupy the hall of columns in the capitol and line some of the principal corridors. To show how transitory is fame let me give some of the names of those honored by their states with representation at the capitol: J. L. McCurry, (Alabama); Uriah M. Rose (Arkansas); Thomas Starr King (California); John W. Gorrie (Florida); George L. Shoup (Idaho); George W. Glick (Kansas); John Hanson (Maryland); James Z. George (Miss.); William Allen (Ohio); John E. Kenna (West Virginia). All who can identify these persons, please raise your hands! And how many over the country

could identify Dr. McLoughlin and Jason Lee?

There are to be sure others of enduring fame in the group. Among them are Henry Clay (Kentucky); Samuel Adams (Massachusetts); Daniel Webster (New Hampshire); William J. Bryan (Nebraska); Will Rogers (Oklahoma); George Washington and Robert E. Lee (Virginia); Robert M. LaFollette (Wisconsin). And of course mention should be made of the latest contribution to this gallery of sculptured greatness: Huey A. Long of Louisiana.

No, if we wish to honor McLoughlin and Lee whose names do survive in Oregon, let their figures stand somewhere in the Oregon scene (a bust of McLoughlin does appropriately overlook the falls at Oregon City) where those who respect their memory can pause in tribute; not in Washington where even the guides would know little more about them than their names.

Oregon is not unrepresented in the national capitol. A statue of Edward D. Baker, senator from Oregon who was killed in the battle of Ball's Bluff during the civil war, stands in the rotunda between statues of Washington and Jefferson. It was placed there by authority of the congress. Baker was one of the most brilliant orators of his time.

Also an oil painting of the late Sen. Charles L. McNary will hang in the senate wing of the capitol.

Mrs. Gerlinger was ambitious to have Mrs. Abigail Scott Duniway, pioneer writer and suffragist in Oregon, as one of Oregon's representatives. Mrs. Duniway's statue would find far more congenial company in the crypt of the capitol under the rotunda where is the group of busts of three national leaders in the cause of women's rights and "votes for women": Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

Time marches on. Our history is young. Some future Oregonians may have greater claim to this recognition than those of our rather provincial past. The way at least should be left open.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



The business I started with that GI loan, Dear, is a success! We got labor trouble!

New Club of Vets And Newcomers Meets Wednesday

Second organizational meeting for the newly-formed community social and recreational club will be held this Wednesday night at 8 o'clock in the Capitol room of Salem Chamber of Commerce.

Invitation is extended to all interested, particularly to veterans and newcomers in the city. Carl Greider is acting chairman.

At this meeting, committees named at the last gathering will form an executive group and promote plans for a Washington birthday dance to be held February 22 at the VFW hall, and plan other activities such as discussion groups, skating parties, etc.

Persons wishing added information concerning the new group may call Mrs. Elizabeth MacDowell at the Salem YWCA, 8878.

Aquatic Show Set Wednesday At Willamette

Salem residents will have their first opportunity to witness a full-fledged water pageant when Willamette university swimmers assisted by guest artists from Salem high school will present "Aquatic Symphony" in the YMCA pool at 7 o'clock Wednesday evening. A special performance by Willamette students will be held tonight. Admission will be free on both nights.

The aquatic show, directed by Mrs. Jennie Neuse, instructor in women's physical education at Willamette, will feature ex-GI Fred Andrews in an exhibition of novelty diving, in addition to Salem high school guests artists, Dorothy Bergvik, Sue Small and Ruth Watts.

Featured in the pageant which will include revolving and floating figures are Bonnie Daugherty as King Neptune, Mary Lois Cotton and Mary Fletcher as attendants and Marilyn Cook as the delegate. The hour long program will be concluded by a unique candlelight water parade believed to be the first of its kind presented at a water show in the northwest.

Snell Decision On Execution Due Thursday

Definite decision as to whether he will commute the death sentence of Andrew Dennis, Portland, to life imprisonment, probably will be announced Thursday by Gov. Earl Snell, he indicated here today.

Dennis was scheduled for execution at the state penitentiary here last Friday but Governor Snell issued a one week's reprieve. He was convicted of first-degree murder in Multnomah county in connection with the slaying of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Anna Belle McNally, in a Portland apartment house in January, 1944.

The original death sentence in the Dennis case was set aside by the state supreme court because Circuit Judge Martin Hawkins failed to issue a death warrant. He later was resentenced to death.

K of C Plans Carnival Night

A gala "Carnival Night" will be held in St. Joseph hall, Chemska and Winter streets, Tuesday, February 5, for the benefit of the Catholic youth activity fund. It was announced Monday by Fred Rupp, grand knight of Salem council, Knights of Columbus, and Mrs. Gordon Coffey, acting grand regent, Salem court, Catholic Daughters of America.

A main attraction of the evening will be the appearance of the Sacred Heart Academy treble triad and boys glee club in a choral hour, which will begin at 8:30 p. m. Games and refreshments will follow.

Heads of committee includes T. A. Windshar, finance; Dick Redden, arrangements; Richard Manning, Bernard Loosemore and C. A. Suing, jr., entertainment; Joe Wishman, booth; Mrs. Florence Brennan, refreshments.

pounds a day each. (Estimate given by Maj. Gen. E. B. Gregory, quartermaster of the U. S. army, before senate April 14, 1943.)

If the hundreds of millions spent monthly for liquor, beer, cigarettes, night clubs, etc., were spent for food, clothing, etc., there would be no need of increasing wages every few months, (by strikes injuring everyone) as wages now paid would meet the legitimate cost of living and leave considerable for a "nest egg." I think we should call a halt in the constantly increasing cost of high living instead of increasing it by pyramiding wages, cost of living, wages, etc., etc., which cannot help but eventually result in disaster to the nation.

J. E. Putnam
Salem.

Council Elects Scout Officials, Gives Awards

More than 200 members and their guests attended the silver anniversary banquet of the Cascade area council, Boy Scouts of America, at the Marion hotel Sunday evening.

Representatives from 68 organizations sponsoring scout units throughout the Polk, Clatsop, Silver Falls and Marion districts reviewed the council's 25 years of scout work, discussed council business and distributed scouting awards.

At a business meeting Sunday afternoon, W. L. Phillips was re-elected council president and Ralph Johnson, Dr. T. W. Sahlinstrom and Ray Glat were named vice presidents of the council's central, southern and northern sections, respectively.

Lawrence Fisher was elected treasurer. Henry Kropp Catholic representative, Carl Aschenbrenner, commissioner, Gardner Knapp civic service chairman and Floyd Bowers auditor.

Members at large named as chairman committee were Judge Arthur Hay, Eagle board: A. C. Haag, trust fund; R. L. Elstrom, finance; William Hamilton, health and safety; Robert Lantz, advancement; William Baillie, organization and extension, and Dent Reed, camping.

Principal speaker at the evening banquet was Lt. Col. Guy P. Miller, former Portland scout executive, who reported on a survey of scouting made during his four years with the 95th division. Colonel Miller estimated that one-third of the personnel of his division were former boy scouts, 76 per cent of the non-commissioned officers had been scouts, 82 per cent of commissioned officers and 92 per cent of staff officers.

Awards of the evening included scoutmaster keys to Ted Rake, Salem; Sam Cairnes, Sweet Home, and Joe Shay, Silverton, presented by Robert Lantz, and silver beaver awards to Rake and Cairnes by Norman Frees.

Installation of officers by Frank Bennett followed an acknowledgment address by Lyle Leighton, Salem scout executive.

Reports showed that there were 1299 scouts and 674 cub scouts at the end of 1945, a net increase of 29 per cent. The 1946 objectives were listed as 1800 scouts and 1200 cubs.

R. W. Land, R. L. Elstrom and W. L. Phillips were nominated to attend the national scout meeting at Atlantic City in May.

Dubach Urges Leadership of World by U.S.

The United States must provide Christian leadership for the world, and its citizens must learn to understand, feed, clothe and heal the rest of the world, Dr. U. G. Dubach, dean of men at Oregon State college, told the Salem Chamber of Commerce at its forum luncheon Monday.

Dr. Dubach quoted returning men at the college who "were fed up" with the various parts of the world in which they had served. Asked if the United States "got out" what country would go in, each answered, "Why Russia of course."

Special need for understanding of the Russian people was stressed by the speaker. Food, clothing and health are basic needs if future revolutions in ravaged countries are to be avoided, Dr. Dubach said, reminding his audience that this country had not been invaded and it was just as it had been except for those homes whose sons had been killed or wounded.

Real Christian leadership, not mere denominationalism is the need, Dr. Dubach said.

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