

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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No Chancellor?

The recent changes in administrative assignments by the state board of higher education prompts the Eugene Register-Guard to speculate on what may (or what should) happen if and when Chancellor Hunter retires. The R-G thinks the present organization is top-heavy, and would delete the office of chancellor and grant more authority to the presidents of the several institutions.

We heard a prominent state college man Saturday endorse a similar plan. He expressed the opinion that the present heads of the two big schools could cooperate and avoid the contention which the chancellorship was created to handle. The idea is one which will receive much attention in the immediate future.

Following is the principal portion of the Register-Guard's editorial:

If Dr. Frederick M. Hunter retires as chancellor of the Oregon State System of Higher Education in the near future, as seems probable, the state board will have an opportunity to make the presidents of the University of Oregon, the State College and the normals what they ought to be—presidents with authority, the salary and the opportunity for leadership which the presidents of such schools should have.

The big job of purification is done, and for his share in that achievement Dr. Hunter deserves full credit. The personalities around whom all the conflict between the University and Oregon State was centered have left the stage. The office of chancellor is no longer needed, and perhaps it should be recalled, that in the original report of 15 years ago, the creation of the chancellorship was suggested, only if differences could not otherwise be reconciled.

With such high class men as Dr. Newburn and Dr. Strand at the head of the two major schools, there is little danger of the old feuds cropping out again. The schools need desperately the stimulus which can come only by giving their presidents the authority which they ought to have, to lead, to plan, to propose.

Furthermore, in making this important change, there should be a sharp definition and limitation of the powers to be exercised by Charles Byrne, as executive secretary of the state board. Dr. Byrne is an able man, particularly in business matters, and competent as an adviser to the board and coordinator of administrative details, but it should be plainly understood that his powers do not extend to educational policies, budgets or policies where the presidents must be free to function.

When Dr. Hunter took the office of chancellor, it was highly necessary. It is a tribute to Dr. Hunter to say that as he approaches retirement, the office has become unnecessary. Oregon is not a rich state, but its educational demands are enormous. We need the savings of simplification. Most of all we need the vitality which can come only by making the presidents what they ought to be.

Affirmative Program

In Tuesday's editorial column the full employment bill was critically analyzed. That was a negative approach to the problem of unemployment. It is advisable to work out affirmative solutions as far as possible.

Industry itself has done much more than government to prepare itself for the reconversion period. The Committee on Economic Development, Paul Hoffman, chairman, has done more than any government agency or quasi-public body to work out sensible plans to meet the situation sure to develop with suspension of war contracts and demobilization. Its message has been carried to all employers of any considerable number of men, urging a forward look to absorb as many workers as possible at the coming of peace.

So long as our economy remains as it is, private enterprise will have to carry the principal load in providing jobs. This means that the climate for private endeavor must remain reasonably healthy.

A public works program may wisely be geared into the general economic situation. While it cannot be turned on and off like tapwater, it can be speeded up and expanded in periods of business recession and slowed down in periods of business activity.

Then public assistance must be provided in periods of stress. In the future as in the past we can expect swings up and down in the level of business. Society must give help to carry over its members who are caught in the trough of a depression. The strong must help carry the weak.

Clearly the emphasis should be put on keeping a clear road for private employment because that is the area where the possibilities are greatest. This does not mean approval of inordinate profits or protection of monopoly. On the contrary, it means to keep the channels of competition open; and to distribute earnings fairly, providing workers with purchasing power and companies with profits for growth. As we solve this problem we take care largely of the unemployment problem.

General McArthur has ordered the abolition of licensed prostitution in Japan. If he succeeds he would be a good prospect for chief of police in most any large American city—and some smaller ones.

An elevator operator's life is full of ups and downs. The housewife says her business is always picking up.

The Soviet army is leaving China, putting a good many American GIs in the anomalous position of envying the Russian soldier.

Maybe the trouble with "reconversion" is that man hasn't been "converted" for the first time.

At long last the Pearl Harbor investigating committee has heard the short of it.

What's the Capital of Maine?

The old parlor standby game of tossing cards into a hat is taking a back seat in this day of "One World," and if a person wants to be the life of the party he'd better brush up on geography.

Such educational pastimes as trying to write the names of the 48 states in 10 minutes, rattling off the capitals of each commonwealth, giving boundaries, and listing the U. S. presidents in proper order, again are in vogue—complicated no end by such variations as dating major battles of World War II and locating the once unpronounceable islands of the Pacific.

Atlases, almanacs and other reference books have been getting a good dusting off, and if the worth-while educational yen persists such volumes could well be added to the list of shortages. Most of those now in circulation are somewhat outmoded in parts, anyway, and a lot of home libraries are starting to have additions already.

By the way, if such things sound simple, just try writing the names of all the states, let alone all their capitals. Your grade school offspring, though, might surprise you—even if the study of geography now has given way to the new-fangled course called social studies.

A man in Columbia county claims to have a compound that will make hair grow on the bald. A better benefaction locally would be to make trees grow on the bald hills of Columbia county.

With another war over the new crop of veterans is reviving the drum corps "racket" over the country. Those who survived the drum corps contests of the period between the wars will have fresh cause to renew their prayers for perpetual peace.

Papers always use the form in reports of weddings: Man takes bride. Yet often it is the groom who is "taken."

Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—State Secretary Byrne came back from London without saying much. He had a 40-minute conference with Mr. Truman and held an off-the-record press conference which developed no news. Those who saw him judged he was satisfied with the beginnings of the United Nations organization, but frankly, it must be reported little enthusiasm is evident backstage here. The inner comment runs to platitudes, lacking any moving depth of inspiration for the better world. The organization has been set up, but what it will amount to rests with incalculable events of the future, and everyone can plainly see the natural conflicts of world politics exhibited to date, forecast an uneasy future.

The Russians, for example, sought to force up the questions of British influence in Greece and Indonesia purely as a matter of politics to counteract the claims that they had seized Iran. Issues and Conflict Were Lacking. Neither the Greeks nor the Indonesians were complaining. No issue or conflict had been presented, in contrast with the affair of Iran, where the government had protested strenuously against Russia's protection of the communist revolutionaries—until a pro-Russian premier took over the Teheran government this past weekend.

The Russians just tried to work up an issue to make trouble for the British and Dutch in the security council. It furnished typical evidence of Russian tactics, which are the basic cause of the lack of enthusiasm for the future of the organization.

Behind this situation, there exists a natural feeling that Russia is too strong for UNO and may succeed in restraining its activities to courses which are acceptable to Russia, thus greatly limiting its future scope and power. This Russian position is understandable. In the big three and big five meetings Moscow generally has been able to get her way, but in the United Nations assembly, where she must face the whole world of the smaller nations, her causes have not fared so well. Beaten in Initial Meeting. She was beaten three times in this first meeting of the assembly, failing to elect her candidate a president, being unable to break the secret ballot system, or to limit the size of the steering committee, upon which 51 nations now are to be represented.

Then, quite significantly, Molotov did not attend the meeting, but sent Vishinsky, who, incidentally arrived late.

But outside the UNO, Russia is picking up power through Europe and Asia, greater than any nation has accumulated in our time. The only really formidable resistance has developed in nations where the Christian churches are strong, which explains the constant attacks of her press against the Vatican particularly.

Only a Working Truce Possible. By her very nature, Russia is not alone a nation but a world revolutionary political movement. Hence it is impossible that she could be appeased with any limited amount of territory or power. The struggles of Chinese or French communists for instance, cannot be resolved and settled. A working truce is the utmost possible.

Thus the troubles of the world must reasonably be expected to continue indefinitely and create ever-widening problems for UNO. One observer from London thought the trend he noted there was leading to an ultimate struggle between Russia and the United States for the world power which was Britain's. He thought UNO would come to that. Perhaps. Yet all that can be discerned behind events to date is that the keeping of the peace will be a difficult and unending task because of the political forces at play in the world. Frankly no authority here seems to be any too happy about it all.



The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

BEFORE THE SUN GOES DOWN, by Elizabeth Metzger Howard (Doubleday; \$2.75).

In certain respects this novel may be worth every cent awarded its lucky author: \$20,000 plus \$125,000 as winner of publisher and M-G-M prize contests, and I don't know what additional sums.

It's the story of Willowsprings, Pa., along the Juniata, in 1880-81. The entire cast of characters is thrust on you broadside: in 15 pages you meet 45 persons.

Long before you get them straight in your mind, you realize that Dan Field, the doctor, is the key to the situation. He is friend of the rich Albrights and Sargents, who run the place, yet he enters every shack, however humble, to dispense pills, sweetness and light.

Mrs. Howard earns her money by using the tear-jerking device most effective among the largest number of people. You read about the little boy who dearly loves his dog, the grown man who longs for home, the tough kid with heart of gold who feeds the starving, the hard father who softens towards his darling children, the innocent girl so frightened by the sudden change to womanhood, the wealthy man who in Alger fashion rescues a ragged boy from poverty.

She earns it, too, by trying for laughs in the easy ways: old maids go around asking people to sign the pledge and negroes, those humorous irresponsibles, make love all over the place. She earns it by bright forecasts of a rosy future for our great democratic land.

She earns it perhaps best by a combination, which is no doubt naive but strikes you as calculating, of what is noble and pure with what is filthy. On one page she quotes from the Bible, on the next she works in one of the words Boston speaks but refuses to read; on the next a youngster learns about sex. The book is full of backhouses and four-letter words chalked on walls, and boys and girls in the hay or at the swimming hole. By spring of 1881 everyone knows how to make a baby.

The thing which disturbs me most is not that this was written or published but that millions

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued From Page 1)

lower taxes, assessments were scaled down but by no means to the level of the forced sales of the period. The abnormal situation was not taken as a firm standard of value. The situation is in reverse now; and the increases will probably be conservative as compared with quoted selling prices. Perhaps, however, a sharper rise would let a little hot air out of the price inflation.

Most of our taxes are levied not by fixed millages but in mills to produce the revenues required for meeting the budgets. In this respect if an even percentage increase is made on all property assessments the taxpayer doesn't have to pay any higher tax than if there had been no change in his assessment. Thus if the valuation of a school district is \$1,000,000 and \$10,000 is required to run the school, the levy is 10 mills. If the assessed valuation is doubled and the school budget remains the same the levy is cut to five mills, and the taxpayer is not hurt.

There are some city levies on a millage basis, like the street repair and fire department special levies with a maximum of two mills each. Also the state higher education fund and the state elementary school tax fund are based on fixed millages. Increases in assessed valuations would increase the amounts raised under these levies. For general support of government the six per cent limitation applies and this limits the amount which may be raised.

Referring again to assessments of property I would make the point that individual sales do not fix the whole market. The fact that one or several houses have been sold at twice their pre-war value does not mean that all the property in Marion county could be sold for twice its former value. The "distress" purchase made by a person desperate for a house

of Americans should be expected to want nothing better than this for a book or a film.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"I am deeply grateful for the information you gentlemen have given me on the A-Atom—I pride myself on keeping my filibusters timely!"

Legion Names Bassett to Lead Service Officer Instruction

Ray Bassett, service officer of American Legion Capitol Post No. 9, has been appointed instruction chairman of the service officer classes to be conducted Friday afternoon, February 8, at the legion hall in connection with the legion state department officers and local legionnaires' conference on that day.

The announcement, coming from the legion's state department rehabilitation commission, Portland, reported that June W. Valiant, Portland, legion national field secretary for Oregon and Washington, and Robert C. Dillard, Portland, department service officer, will assist Bassett.

Well Qualified. One of the six Oregon department rehabilitation commissioners, Bassett is well qualified to conduct the classes which are divided into three sessions. Purpose of the school is to instruct local post service officers on veterans' benefits in compensations, pensions, review boards, burial benefits, insurance and hospital care. Mrs. Otto Heider, Sheridan, member of the rehabilitation commission will represent the legion auxiliary at the instructions.

Service officers and interested legionnaires from 30 legion posts in Marion, Polk, Yamhill and parts of Washington, Lincoln, Linn and Clackamas counties are expected to attend the conference and evening entertainment.

Post Officers' Course. While the service officer school is being conducted by Bassett, Fritz Nissen, Portland, department adjutant, will be conducting an instruction course for post officers and adjutants in administration functions and responsibilities in line with the American Legion's national policy.

Units of the American Legion auxiliary will hold sessions Friday afternoon in the Women's Club. The afternoon sessions are scheduled to start at 1:30 and end at 5:30.

Crew Saved From Stranded Ship Off Alaska

SEATTLE, Jan. 29.—(AP)—The officers and crew of about 40 men of the 5100-ton refrigerated ship Crown Reefer, aground on rugged Amchitka island in the Aleutians, were safe tonight but the vessel's fate was in doubt.

Capt. M. Rockover, of New York, and several of his men were still aboard a navy tug and the pilot, Edward M. Stornich, and 21 crew members were ashore with army troops on Amchitka, latest messages to the 13th naval district and the vessel's agents here said. The double bottom of the ship, however, apparently was completely torn open and water flooded the engine room to within two feet of the top of the engines after the ship hit the rocks Sunday night.

There were no passengers aboard when the ship left here Jan. 1 with a cargo of perishables for Kodiak and Aleutian island bases, but the agents did not know whether passengers were taken aboard at Kodiak.

Navy divers were to make an under-water examination after navy vessels arrived with all salvage personnel and equipment available in the western Aleutians, the navy operating base at Adak radioed.

CAP Cadets, Senior Members to Fly at Albany Airport

Both Civil Air Patrol cadets and senior members of the Civil Air patrol will travel to the Albany airport, Sunday, February 3, where two army planes will be available for free planes rides for CAP members, it was announced Tuesday.

This week's CAP meeting will be highlighted by the motion picture, "Live and Learn," which will be shown in the plane engine's class.

The meeting, open to anyone, are held every Thursday from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the high school shop building.

Instructors' Class in First Aid Scheduled

A week-long first aid instructors' class will start Monday evening, first session to be in the chapter rooms of the local Red Cross. The class will be held nightly through Friday, from 7:30 to 10:30 o'clock.

The course, designed to train instructors, is open to those holding instructors' cards, valid for the last three years and those holding current advanced first aid certificates in the Red Cross.

All eligible persons are urged to take the course by Wayne Kuhl, chairman of the first aid, water safety, and accident prevention committee for Marion county chapter of the Red Cross.

Chester Schwartz, representative in Oregon from the area of office for first aid, water safety, and accident prevention, will teach the course.

Morse to Urge Use of Portland Port by U. S.

PORTLAND, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Senator Morse (R-Ore.) wired Mayor Riley today he would urge upon War Mobilization Director John W. Snyder "that full use be made of this port."

The mayor had sent a protest based on information that 63 ships loaded with war materiel were scheduled to dock at ports other than Portland.

BOXCARS ORDERED WEST

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 29.—(AP)—Sen. Guy Cordon (R-Ore.) has notified the Portland advisory committee to the war shipping administration that the ODT is acting at once to transfer 1100 or 1200 boxcars to the west. Harold E. Sanford, committee chairman, said this should substantially relieve the boxcar scarcity which has slowed wheat movements.

TIGHTEN AIR CONTROL. HAMILTON, Bermuda, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Under pressure from London, British delegates to the conference drafting a new British-American air agreement now are reported to be demanding virtual veto power on the right of the U. S. civil aeronautics board to grant extensions or make changes in routes flown by U. S. airlines in Europe.

Rosson Off for Vets' Meeting In Washington

Hugh E. Rosson, director of the state department of veterans affairs, left Portland by train Tuesday evening for Washington, D. C., where he will attend a conference called to discuss problems of re-training and re-employment of veterans.

Heads of veterans' committees from all states are invited to the conference by the re-training and re-employment administration of the department of labor. The meeting will be held Monday and Tuesday.

Main purpose of the session is to devise measures insuring better cooperation between state and financial agencies working in these fields. Rosson also expects to discuss local problems pertaining to veterans with the Oregon delegation in congress, he said. He expects to return to Salem in several weeks.

UAL to Triple Repair Space

Space for overhauling United Air Lines' planes will be tripled by June 1 when United moves its central maintenance base at Itsenette to the buildings which housed United's modification center during the war, Vice President J. A. Herlihy of the air lines main office has announced.

The expansion has been made necessary by the company's growing operations which now include flights by 77 planes totalling 138,500 miles daily, the official statement.

Among new operations of United is the air freight service which will accommodate Salem and the 53 other cities on United's routes, beginning this Friday. Twin-engine Douglas DC-3 Cargoliners with 6300-pound capacity will connect directly with the passenger-cargo Mainliners to speed the movement of air freight.

Stevens & Son
New Mountings

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