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EDITOR AND PUBLISHER: Alton F. Baker
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The Register-Guard's policy is the complete and impartial publication in its news pages of all news and statements of news. On this page the editors of the Register-Guard offer their opinions on events of the day and matters of importance to the community, endeavoring to be candid, but fair and helpful in the development of constructive community policy.

Pots, Kettles and Spies

Communist termites and other subversive agents within the United States must get great satisfaction out of the bitter feud between Parnell Thomas' congressional spy-hunting committee and Tom Clark's department of justice. We think the public will adopt these conclusions:

1. President Truman inherited a federal bureaucracy which was infested and infected with Communists and fellow-travelers.
2. Tom Clark may not be trying to protect Communists as alleged by Thomas but he is certainly trying to protect the Truman administration from scandals which hurt in campaign time.
3. Thomas' committee has certainly been guilty of complete disregard of the constitutional rights of many of the persons investigated, and the whole operation of his committee smells of "smear."

It is important to the American people to put an end to the abuses of both of these factions. We need a Department of Justice which will not lend itself to any political cover-ups, which will prosecute subversive characters fearlessly whenever there is valid evidence on which to hang a criminal proceeding. But we also need some restrictions on the abuse of the powers of Congress to investigate, and these spy inquiries are not the first instance of such abuse.

"But how can Congress get the necessary information on which to base corrective laws unless it has full power to make investigations."

The power to make investigations will not be curtailed in the slightest by providing RULES OF PROCEDURE which entitle every person called before an investigating committee the SAME protection which he would have in a court of law:

LEGAL COUNSEL should certainly be permitted to any person whose rights or reputation may be involved.

WITNESSES FOR DEFENSE should be allowed to be subpoenaed and heard.

RECORDS FOR DEFENSE should be accepted as evidence.

In some ways, the conduct of Thomas' committee has been far more reprehensible than that of the Department of Justice, because it has set up a pattern of inquisition which could affect the rights of all of us. The Hiss-Chambers episode is as good an example as any, and we are not attempting any defense of Hiss when we point out that he was not allowed to present any evidence for his defense. His recently filed slander suit against Chambers may give him his "day in court," but his reputation has been damaged beyond repair by the high-handed methods of the Thomas committee, and the evil lies in the fact that this can be done to anybody, high or low. Anybody can be dragged before a congressional committee and a circumstantial case can be built up against him for publication and he can be denied his right of defense until he can drag his case into the courts at his own expense.

This is not the way to fight Communism in the United States. The Thomas committee has functioned as an adjunct of the Republican party; Clark has used the Department of Justice for Democratic propaganda. Both are a stench.

Looping Through Business Area

In the main, we believe the suggested plan for "looping" traffic through Eugene's central business district will prove sound, and we would like to see it adopted for a TRIAL PERIOD of 30 to 60 days. In that time no great damage would be done to any existing interest, but a careful check should be kept—possibly by Howard Buford's planning office—on the complaints and complications which may develop. There is logic in the proposal:

Willamette (13th to 5th)—one-way for northbound vehicles only, so that most incoming people could de-bark on the "main drag."

Oak and Olive (5th to 13th)—one-way for southbound, or out-bound traffic, so that workers or shoppers having concluded the day's business would have only one block to go to get busses or to get into home-bound traffic flow to east or west side.

Nobody can predict just what the results will be, but we think there will be some big gains, particularly in the movement of busses because bus stops can be eliminated except on one side of each street, and if necessary the length of bus stops can be increased so that two or three busses could load or unload simultaneously. Another device which would certainly speed up bus traffic would be to set the out-bound bus stops on Oak and Olive at every other odd-numbered block to minimize the turn-ins and turn-outs. But you will hear this objection:

"People don't like to wait for busses on Oak and Olive because those streets are poorly lighted and there are no places to stand in out of the rain."

Oak and Olive are long overdue for modern street lights, but for that matter the whole downtown street light system is obsolete and needs rebuilding with modern, efficient lighting units including the cross-town streets.

"Would this re-routing of downtown traffic produce a re-routing of certain types of business? Are there some types of business which

might move to Oak and Olive to catch home-bound trade?"

Could be! But we doubt if any business really lives on this type of pickup business, nor do we think such a change will make any appreciable change in buying habits. Mrs. Jones bee-lines for those stores which have what she wants at what she thinks is a good price. Her problem is to get in and get out. And a spread of business within the business area is not to be feared because growth is spreading it anyhow.

So far as we can see, the unpredictable complications will come in the management of "cross-traffic." Will Willamette alone be able to handle the north-bound flow? Will it be necessary to "one-way" the cross streets, completing a grid of "one-ways" such as is contemplated in Portland?

"What will be the effects on traffic flow when the new boulevard highway on Franklin-Broadway into 6th and 7th is completed?"

It is encouraging to see some positive action proposed, but we suggest that all moves be scheduled on a TRIAL BASIS and as a guide to PERMANENT ARTERIAL PLANNING which is a prime need.

"What about that state highway 'cut-off' from the overhead just this side of Elmira Junction to West 11th, for which right-of-way was acquired before the war when the 'outer highway' was projected?"

That "outer highway" may be a dead duck because of heavy construction on the intended line, but this cut-off is still possible and it could be used to develop a lateral flow which might relieve the north-south streets.

Business people in the downtown area may have individual problems, but they need to be reminded of their one common interest—keeping business within their area. Traffic congestion such as we have now tends to drive it clear out of town.

Nobody was ever known to shoot Santy Claus, a famous sage once remarked, but that all depends on whose halibut made the fumble.

Some youngsters already have tired of playing with that new electric train—but we won't bet on dad.

If we all could do just as we please, think of the dishes that would be piled up in the sink.

Some educators say fairy tales are harmful to children. Better not let yours read political statements.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By DOUGLAS LARSEN
LEA Staff Correspondent
(Peter Edson is on vacation)

WASHINGTON—(NEA)—Two American businessmen and four or five Argentine industrialists were recently summoned before the Argentine government's National Economic Council President (and czar) Miguel Miranda. Purpose of the conference was to settle a labor dispute these employers were having in Buenos Aires. But when the group arrived for the meeting they found Eva Peron, Presidente Juan Peron's photogenic blonde better-half, sitting behind Miranda's desk. The employers said they had come to see Miranda. Miranda was nowhere around. Eva explained that she was to deal with them. She then outlined exactly what she wished the employers paid. In return she said she would see that the businessmen were allowed to raise the prices on their products.

Reports to Washington indicate that the Argentine first lady is getting more and more powerful every day. Although she had little or no personal fortune when her husband, an army colonel, first rose to power, her collection of jewels is now famous all over the Americas. Also, she now controls and apparently owns a radio station and a newspaper which are freely used to further her pet projects.

Tugwell Hangs On
Only personal loyalty to his old chief, Henry Wallace, is keeping Rex Tugwell from renouncing and denouncing the Progressive Party. Tugwell got a belly full of the Wallace supporters at the third party's Philadelphia convention. Tugwell had gone to the convention as chairman of the Resolutions Committee. Drafts of a 2500-word liberal platform had been prepared in advance. It called for making a sincere gesture of friendship to the Russians, but it reserved American rights and principles. In the committee meetings, however, all this stuff was voted down and out by followers of the Communist line. They then proceeded to dictate a 6500-word platform that was a complete sell-out to the Russians. Tugwell didn't even go to Wallace's Shibe Park rally. He watched it by television in Wallace's hotel suite, and fell asleep while Wallace was speaking at the end of the four-hour program. Tugwell left Philadelphia pretty skeptical about the third party's future and disgusted at the way Wallace had allowed the left-wingers to sell him a bill of goods.

Recent announcement that the Navy was putting the battleships Iowa and Missouri in mothballs caught the White House off guard, and the big brass caught a bawling out. While the Navy had been planning for some time to lay up the last two battleships still on active service—in order to give more attention to submarines, carriers and aircraft—the move had apparently not been cleared all the way up to the top. And the White House wasn't so sure that the world situation warranted any such steps. Also, the possibility of a political backfire from the Republicans, who might charge that the Democrats were disarming the country in the face of a world crisis, hadn't been thought of.

Flanders Awaits Fourth Round
Early this year Republican Senator Ralph Flanders of Vermont introduced a bill to authorize stand-by rationing controls. He was particularly interested in the need for meat rationing. But his bill was killed by committee action in February and never got to the Senate floor for a vote. In the recent special session of Congress Flanders opposed rationing. He said his reason was that early in 1948 the third round of wage increases was virtually completed, while at the present time the fourth round was just getting started. It would be unfair, he said, to put on any controls until the fourth round of wage increases was completed.

Boeing Airplane Co. now says that the Russian designed Ilyushin plane is not a stolen version of the U. S. XB-47 Stratojet, as was originally reported. The XB-47 is a sixjet bomber. "The nacelles of the Ilyushin are hung somewhat similarly to those of the XB-47," says Boeing engineer George Martin, "but the similarity ends right there." The Russian plane has straight instead of swept-back wings, and is probably a slower plant than the XB-47. Boeing still insists that 20 features of the B-29 were swiped for the Russian TU-70.



ONE OF THESE Tiltan-haired students from District 4 grade schools will be named Miss Flame" to rule over Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 2 to 9. The winner will be chosen Saturday, Oct. 2, on the stage of the McDonald theatre.

CIO Leaders Indicate Walkout By Red-Controlled Unions

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Veteran CIO leaders said Thursday that a walkout by Communist-controlled unions is inevitable.

They said the split was hastened by two developments. One was the naming of a special committee by CIO President Philip Murray for a showdown on alleged Communist activities by the New York City CIO Council. The other was the blacklisting by the Atomic Energy Commission of the United Electrical Workers and United Public Workers, both CIO left-wing unions.

Portland Meet
The split could come at the Portland, Ore., convention of the CIO in November, labor sources said. Only a sudden and complete reversal of Soviet Russia's foreign policy can prevent or halt what one CIO official said appears to be "an inevitable and logical break."

Thus far the left-wing unions have denied any intentions of seceding from the CIO. But in nine months they have taken two lopsided beatings in the CIO Executive Board on the endorsement of President Truman and support of

the European Recovery Program. They have lost ground in the national maritime and transport workers unions. And more than 100,000 members have swung away from them to right-wing CIO unions.

Oddly, the split may be provoked by the CIO rightwingers. This could happen if Murray's special committee recommends expulsion of the New York City CIO Council. If such a step were upheld by the executive board and the convention, the action would have the appearance of the right wing ousting the leftwingers.

Set Precedent
CIO leaders regard the New York "trial" as a precedent-setting case on which a final left-right break will hinge. Murray set Oct. 14 as the date to start hearings on the charges against the New York Council. He named three right-wing union presidents to the committee. They are O. A. Knight of the oil workers, Joseph Froesch of the glass workers, and Martin Wagner of the chemical workers.

Murray and other top CIO lead-

ers maintained a tight-lipped silence on the Atomic Energy Commission's blacklisting of the electrical workers and the public workers. But privately some of them felt that the action—the most drastic yet taken by any government agency against left-wing unions — would eventually undermine the present leadership of the two organizations.

Lose Members
One by-product, they said, could be a loss of rank and filers to CIO right-wing unions. Chairman David E. Lilienthal of the Atomic Energy Commission ordered General Electric Co. Not to recognize the electrical workers at the Knolls II atomic power laboratory at Schenectady, N.Y. He directed the University of Chicago not to recognize the public workers at the Argonne National Laboratory in Chicago. He said officers of the two unions had failed to file non-Communist affidavits under the Taft-Hartley law. "In addition," he said, "information is available of alleged Communist affiliation or association of various officers" of the two unions.

Pioneer Meat Packer Dead

CHICAGO—(AP)—Charles Henry Swift, 75, pioneer Chicago meat packer, died Thursday night.

He was chairman of the board of Swift and Co.

Ill two months with a lung infection, he died in his home at 209 Lake Shore Drive on Chicago's Gold Coast.

A native of Lancaster, Mass., Swift came to Chicago as a child when his father, Gustavus F. Swift, founded the company here.

He entered the business as a young man, first buying livestock and later working in other divisions.

34 Years Service
In 1907 he became director and in 1909 vice-president of the company. This year he completed 34 years of continuous service with the company.

Funeral services will be held in Rockefeller Chapel at the University of Chicago campus, Saturday.

Survivors include the widow, the former Claire Dux, and a brother, Harold H. Swift, vice-chairman of Swift and Co.

Two Recruiting Jobs Open in WAC and WAF

Two positions for women recruiters for the WAC and WAF are open in the Oregon Army and Air Forces Recruiting District, reports Lt. Col. F. C. Dahlquist, commanding officer of Oregon District. Women veterans may apply for assignment to recruiting stations in Portland or Eugene.

Applicants must have had prior service in the WAC, in the age limit of 18 to 34, and be able to meet the enlistment standards of the new regular WAC and WAF. Women enlisted would be assigned to one of the two recruiting stations.

Details may be obtained at any Army and Air Force Recruiting station, or by contacting Cpl. Hilda Lusk, Portland Main Recruiting station, 425 S.W. Taylor.

Bob's Beauty Salon, 1146 E. 25th Ave., will be closed for vacation Wednesday, Sept. 29th through Thursday Oct. 7th.

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Dancer 'Satira' Receives Pardon

HAVANA, Cuba—(AP)—President Ramon Grau San Martin has signed a decree granting freedom to Patricia (Satira) Schmidt, the American nightclub entertainer who was convicted of killing her lover, Chicago socialite John Lester Mee.

The sloe-eyed dancer has served more than one year of the 15-year sentence she drew for shooting Mee aboard his yacht "Satira" in Havana harbor in April, 1947.

The presidential pardon for the 22-year-old Toledo-born girl was not unexpected. For more than a week it had been reported that such action was contemplated. It did not constitute any precedent since it is customary in Latin-American countries for the outgoing president as well as the new chief executive to grant a number of pardons. Grau leaves office on Oct. 10 when he will be succeeded by Carlos Rios Socarras.

The last legal obstacle to presidential amnesty was removed last Tuesday when Satira's lawyer, Carlos Menelo, withdrew his appeal from the original conviction from the supreme court calendar. The court then ratified the sentence imposed by the Havana city court, closing the case and making executive clemency legally permissible.

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THINGS WORTHWHILE IN LIFE

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