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Salem, Oregon, Saturday, February 21, 1948

School Issues Join

After weeks of feinting and sparing in an attempt to re-  
concile their differences over the need for wisdom of float-  
ing a \$3,500,000 bond issue with which to improve the phys-  
ical facilities of consolidated Marion county school district  
No. 24, proponents and opponents have at last joined issues  
along the lines on which their battle will be fought out at the  
polls next Tuesday, February 24.

Superintendent Frank B. Bennett, who has led a battery of  
speakers who have been appearing before service clubs and  
civic organizations as well as community groups of parents  
which have met in various parts of the district to listen to  
the school board's case, accepted the challenge of critics of  
the financing plan at one of these community gatherings in  
the Highland school Thursday evening.

Proponents of the project had been accused by the opposi-  
tion of failing to provide the voters (property owners) with  
all the facts necessary to competently judge the financial  
feasibility and timeliness of the proposal.

Bennett replied with the assertion that not only had the  
newspapers been furnished full statistical data and other  
arguments favorable to the bond issue, but that this material  
has been distributed to persons attending the neighborhood  
meetings and to those present at Chamber of Commerce and  
other luncheon meetings of businessmen.

Superintendent Bennett laid particular stress upon the thorough-  
ness with which the board's case establishing the need for added  
physical facilities had been documented in the mimeographed  
bulletins distributed at these gatherings.

The Capital Journal has—and we know of no other outspoken  
opponents of the bond plan who does not subscribe to the same  
thought—conceded from the first that the data supplied by the  
board relating to the growth of the district from a standpoint of  
population and the disproportionate tendency with which school-  
age children are increasing in number, is notably thorough and  
complete—so much so that this newspaper has accepted these  
estimates of need without question.

But the Capital Journal still contends that the board has been  
remiss in supplying data on the financial aspects of the proposal.  
Had the school board been as alert in presenting the financial  
picture, as has been Superintendent Bennett in presenting the  
problem of the district's needs, the present bond issue would never  
have been submitted to the voters for their approval at this time.

We challenge Superintendent Bennett to show us one state-  
ment in the mimeographed material issued as information on  
the proposal that even attempts to back up or justify such  
an added obligation being assumed by the district at this time.

Neither do these informational bulletins point out that  
sale of the bonds of a serial variety maturing in 10 years  
and bearing 2.5 percent interest will increase the taxes on  
Salem property by 15 mills, or 23 percent, bringing the total  
levy for schools alone up to approximately 46 mills next year;  
that with contemplated increases in city and county taxes for  
other purposes such as sewer and war memorial bonds by the  
city and road and courthouse bonds by the county, will  
boost the possible property levy in Salem and surrounding  
parts of Marion county up to 95 mills or better within the  
next two or three years.

That the board has no assurance that the proceeds from  
the bond sale will be adequate to finance the program as  
outlined, or even a fourth or a half of it; that for the first  
two or three years after the bonds were sold the district  
would be without a margin of credit even in a case of emer-  
gency, because the bond issue would completely wipe out the  
legal limit to which the district may obligate itself.

Nor even is there a hint given that the assessed values  
placed on the estimated cost of the various units to be added  
to the system are nothing more than the "best guesses" of  
the architects, nor that it is very doubtful whether the board  
could spend more than a million and a half for new buildings  
within the next two years if they had it to spend.

A Distinguished Visitor

Harold Edward Stassen, republican candidate for presiden-  
tial nomination has made a very favorable impression in his  
brief campaign in Oregon. He is the only republican presiden-  
tial aspirant to campaign in this state, the only one to  
personally file his candidacy for the primaries.

Stassen is of imposing physique, has a friendly manner,  
has considerable magnetism, is an indefatigable hand-  
shaker and in his brief talks has none of the politician's  
fear of "sticking his neck out." He is a good speaker. He  
calls for and answers off-hand all queries. He is well in-  
formed on all current issues, and has a truly liberal viewpoint.  
He is not allied with any group or faction and is opposed by  
party leaders. So was Wendell Willkie.

Moreover Stassen's record is one of constructive accom-  
plishment. He was the youngest governor ever elected by  
any state when at the age of 31 he was chosen governor of  
Minnesota and twice re-elected. He resigned during his last  
term to serve in the navy in the Pacific and made good in the  
war against Japan.

The fearlessness of the man is shown when he announced  
his single-handed campaign for the presidency when all the  
other aspirants were, and some still are, pussyfooting. For  
one not in public office he has surprised every one by keeping  
himself in the limelight.

Whether Stassen will be the nominee remains to be seen  
for politicians and party stooges and not the public will decide.  
But if a young man and a war veteran, from the grass-roots  
and a real liberal is wanted, he may be the choice. He is 18  
years younger than Taft, 23 years younger than Vandenberg  
and five years younger than Dewey and has more vitality  
than any of them. Who's Who gives the following data on  
Stassen:

Born in West St. Paul, April 13, 1907. Student at Minnesota  
university college and law school. Admitted to bar 1929; county  
attorney Dakota county, 1930-38; elected governor of Minnesota,  
1938, for term 1939-40; twice re-elected for 1941-43, and 1943-45;  
Resigned to enter U. S. navy, 1943. Served on staff of Adm. W. F.  
Halsey in South Pacific, 1943-44. Appointed assistant chief of  
staff in 1944. Cited for outstanding performance of duty in second  
battle of Philippines October 24-27, 1944. Appointed one of  
U. S. delegates to San Francisco conference of United Nations.  
Temporary chairman and keynoter of Republican National con-  
vention, 1940. National chairman of governor's conference,  
1940-41. Selected as outstanding young man by National Junior  
Chamber of Commerce, 1938. Elected for international district  
citation by the International Society of Christian Endeavor and  
World's C. E. Union, 1941. Awarded Legion of Merit (West Pa-  
cific campaign), February, 1943.

Warmed Up His Engine, All Right

Leadville, Colo. (AP)—Unable to start his 12-year-old sedan,  
Lucas Lucero built a fire under the engine.  
Before he could control it, the blaze destroyed both auto-  
mobile and garage. Firemen saved two adjacent houses.

BY BECK

Recollections



THE FIRESIDE PULPIT

Washington's Prayer Cited  
To Attention of Americans

BY REV. GEORGE H. SWIFT

The Gettysburg address of Abraham Lincoln is well known to  
the American people. It is a great document. George Washing-  
ton, on the occasion of the disbanding of the Continental army  
wrote a prayer which should never have been forgotten  
by the people of America. It too is a great document. It is  
fitting that at least a portion of that prayer should be  
brought to our attention dur-  
ing the season of our first presi-  
dent's anniversary.

Washington wrote, "I now  
make my earnest prayer that  
God will keep the United States  
under His holy protection . . .  
And finally that He will most  
graciously be pleased to dis-  
pose us all to do justice, to love  
mercy, and to demean ourselves  
with that charity, humility, and  
pacific temper of mind, which  
were the characteristics of the  
Divine Author of our blessed  
religion, and without a humble  
imitation of whose example in  
these things we can never hope  
to be a happy nation."

The great leaders of our  
country have always emphasized  
the place of religion in the  
development and progress of our  
people. The framers of the Con-  
stitution of the United States  
were determined that religion  
should be unhampered in Amer-  
ica, and took special care that  
a clause guaranteeing such free-  
dom was incorporated in that  
document. More recently, the  
world leaders have recognized  
the place of religion among all  
peoples everywhere when among  
the Four Freedoms put forth  
in the Atlantic Charter they in-  
cluded freedom of religion.

Freedom of religion was not  
put into the Constitution of the  
United States nor into the At-  
lantic Charter to assure people  
that they may be free from re-  
ligion, but it was put in to

make the worship of God ac-  
cording to the dictates of one's  
conscience easy and without any  
interference from any organiza-  
tion or person.

There was once a time when  
people assembled to worship  
God in peril of their lives. Hun-  
dreds of thousands have died a  
martyr's death to achieve this  
blessing for those who came af-  
ter them. These God-fearing and  
self-sacrificing people, as far  
as we are concerned, have died  
in vain, when we neglect  
to exercise the privilege of wor-  
shiping God.

Joe Louis, he of the powerful punch with a long string of vic-  
tories behind him, says when he's through with the prize ring—  
or it is through with him—he intends to enter politics. Joe has  
rough and tumble times from his babyhood up, in the ring and  
out, but we're prone to feel that with all the rough and tumb-  
le stuff he ain't seen nothing yet. In the political ring the  
boys never heard of a Marquis of Queensberry, there's no such  
thing as winning a round if you get hit below the belt and if  
sportsmanship is at a low ebb in the prize ring, it was forgot-  
ten long ago in politics. We're a little fearful that after Joe takes  
on a few political battles he'll be a bewildered old man, shak-  
ing his head and wondering what hit him. He's been up  
against some tough babies in his life but nothing like the chal-  
lengers he'll meet in the political

game. Those boys still carry  
brass knuckles.

Mr. Stassen came, he also saw,  
but he's going to have to wait  
until next November to find out  
whether he's going to conquer.

We were somewhat surprised  
today to see that the current is-  
sue of "Your Town," local pic-  
torial, sorta turned its columns  
over to some of our choicest  
avengers, and even carried a  
picture on its front page of a  
guy sitting in a barber chair, his  
face screwed up like a profes-  
sional football player carrying  
the ball over for the last three  
inches to a touchdown and in-  
cluding, in all things so it is ex-  
plained, of expressing his opin-  
ion of us and our column. If  
we'd ever thought in our bal-  
my days we could be writin'  
enough to cause any guy to go  
into such apparently internal  
torments, doggone it would have  
made the way seem easy and the  
burden light. All the time we've  
been doing this sort of thing we  
doped we could stir somebody  
up to such a hatin' misery  
for us and at last we turn into  
the little local kid who has made  
good.

Incidentally, the pictorial  
went further and let Col. Bill  
Crawford turn his column over to  
letters from our enemies and  
they did us a right smart raking  
over what with such guys as  
Ethan Grant and Evert Gibbins  
taking a poke at us with their  
typewriters.

Yea, it's been quite a day for  
us getting stuck with hatpins by  
our friendly enemies.

Puddle Beats Engines  
Tacoma (AP)—Five fire-engines  
and two battalion chiefs answer-  
ed a fire call to a downtown  
garage yesterday, but Mother  
Nature was credited with the  
put-out.

The fire was extinguished by  
jerkling out the burning back  
seat of an automobile and drop-  
ping it into a puddle of water in  
the alley.

TOOTHY BABY  
Memphis, Tenn. (AP)—They  
didn't let Billy Hughes, Jr.,  
keep his first tooth very long.  
Billy was born at 2:54 o'clock  
yesterday afternoon. An hour  
later doctors extracted the  
tooth when they found it was  
loose.

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WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Backstage Pressure Seeks  
To Call Off Thomas Probe

BY DREW PEARSON

Washington—Behind the move to shift the grain speculation  
probe from the Senate Appropriations Committee to the Senate  
Expenditures Committee is a strong backstage attempt to hush  
up the facts regarding the amazing grain and cotton deals of Sena-  
tor Elmer Thomas of Oklahoma.

The drive to  
let Senator  
Thomas off the  
hook is spear-  
headed by Sena-  
tor Millard  
Tydings of  
Maryland, with  
the support of  
most other  
Democrats in  
the Appropria-  
tions Commit-  
tee.

They don't like to see a fel-  
low Democrat in trouble, and  
Thomas himself happens to be  
a member of this committee.

During a recent closed-door  
Appropriations Committee  
meeting, Tydings bluntly de-  
manded of Senator Ferguson of  
Michigan, Republican, that the  
Thomas probe be called off.

"He's written you a letter  
telling of his market transac-  
tions," declared Tydings. "What  
more do you want? There's no  
use continuing this persecu-  
tion."

"Nevertheless," replied Fer-  
guson, who is chairman of the  
Sub-Appropriations Committee  
probing grain speculations, "I'm  
going to continue the investiga-  
tion of Senator Thomas and all  
others until I get the facts."

However, Tydings and col-  
leagues have managed to block  
an expenditure of \$20,000 which  
Ferguson needs to pay investiga-  
tors before he can proceed  
further.

Appropriations Committee  
Democrats are expected to vote  
against this \$20,000 unless their  
colleague, Thomas, is exempt  
from further inquiry. Also it  
looks as if enough Republicans  
would join them to save the

gentleman from Oklahoma.

In fact, when the question of  
publicizing grain speculators  
arose last December, Senator  
Chan Gurney of South Dakota  
and Senator Leverett Saltonstall  
of Massachusetts joined the De-  
mocrats in voting no.

That is why hard-hitting Sena-  
tor Styles Bridges of New  
Hampshire, Chairman of the  
Appropriations Committee and  
who favors a full and fearless  
investigation, has worked out a  
plan with Ferguson to transfer  
the speculation probe over to  
the Senate Expenditures  
Committee. Ferguson is also a  
member of this committee, and  
would have the support not  
only of its courageous chair-  
man, Aiken of Vermont, but of  
a more liberal committee mem-  
ber, including Thye (Minn.),  
Ives (N.Y.), and Taylor  
(Idaho).

NOTE—Aside from Bridges  
and Ferguson, the Senate Ap-  
propriation Committee includes  
some of the most reactionary  
members in the Senate—McKel-  
lar (Tenn.), Brooks (Ill.),  
Wherry (Neb.), Dworeshak  
(Idaho), McCarran (Nev.), Ov-  
erton (La.), and Thomas him-  
self.

LOYAL U.S. SERVANTS  
People who have been worried  
about the Red Scare and the  
specter of spies working inside  
the U.S. Government should be  
reassured from J. Edgar Hoover's  
investigation of so-called  
"disloyalty."

Actually, Hoover hasn't found  
very much of it.

Hoover's efficient G-Men  
have now been able to investi-  
gate 418,104 U.S. employes.  
Of this number, only 399  
were found to have records  
which warranted even the re-  
motest suspicion.

Of these 399, in only 8 cases  
did any disloyal data develop.  
Twenty-five Government em-  
ployees resigned during the in-  
vestigation, and some of the oth-  
er remaining cases have not yet  
been finished. However, it looks  
as if so-called disloyalty is go-  
ing to run far less than 1/10 of  
1 percent.

ARMY VIOLATES LAW  
Congressman Forrest Harness,  
Indiana Republican, is preparing  
(Conclude on Page 12, Column 3)

STORIES IN LIFE  
Gob Claims He's Been Two Years  
AWOL Under Assumed Name

San Francisco (AP)—The navy put James Leroy Telfer in dry-  
dock today, while it investigated his story of being AWOL two  
years without leaving the Treasure Island Naval base.

Telfer, 23, of Wichita, Kan.,  
was listed as AWOL since Feb.  
12, 1946, but he never really  
"went over the hill." He just  
changed his name and joined  
the baseball and bowling teams.

Telfer said he went AWOL  
because of dissatisfaction over  
a forthcoming assignment on  
the aircraft carrier Lexington.

Strip Tease Teaser  
Los Angeles (AP)—The stripe-  
tease gals at a local burlesque  
theater were doing some very  
very strange steps, and the stage  
director was calling them to  
task.

"You aren't in step with the  
music," he complained.

"We know it," they answered,  
"but something is hitting us, and  
it hurts."

Police were called and found  
William C. Kiele, 23, sitting in  
the eighth row with a rubber  
slingshot. They said he was  
peppering the dancers with half-  
inch steel staples.

Kiele was jailed on charges of  
suspicion of attack with a dead-  
ly weapon. The dancers went  
on dancing.

Toothy Baby  
Memphis, Tenn. (AP)—They  
didn't let Billy Hughes, Jr.,  
keep his first tooth very long.  
Billy was born at 2:54 o'clock  
yesterday afternoon. An hour  
later doctors extracted the  
tooth when they found it was  
loose.

OPEN FORUM  
Must Not Happen Here

(Editor's Note: Contributions to this column must  
be confined to 300 words and signed by writer)

To the Editor: The taxpaying public must keep in mind that if  
the school bond issue carries, they will pay approximately \$15  
per thousand of the assessed valuation above what they are now  
paying on their property, which will bring the total tax up to  
approximately \$90 per thousand.

This is certainly getting up to  
the breaking point. Only a few  
years ago some of our cities and  
school districts, which had as-  
sessed valuation that high, could  
not pay the interest on their  
bonds. We do not want this to  
happen in Salem.

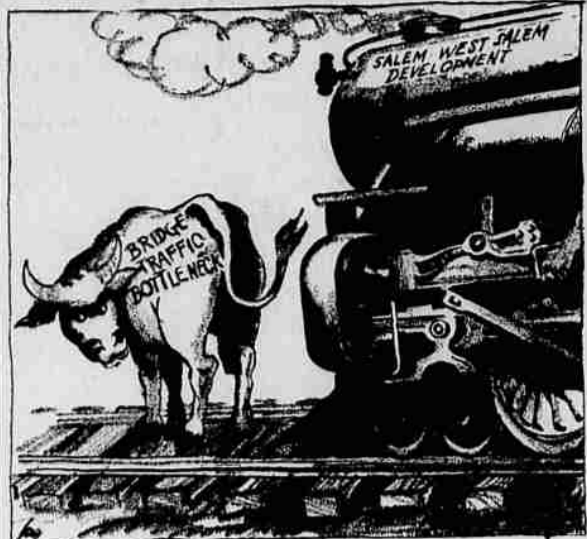
The excessive costs should be  
taken into consideration in  
building at this time. No pri-  
vate individual would make ex-  
penditures under existing con-

ditions. The bond issue should  
be put up for a smaller amount  
and this could carry over the  
present pressing need of the dis-  
trict for additional school facil-  
ities.

Homer H. Smith.

Dance Saturday  
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Get That Critter Off the Track!



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

'Am I My Brother's Keeper?'  
Question Could Be Put to Jim

BY HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—Today we have a little short story revolving  
around Cain's sullen and timeless query:  
"Am I my brother's keeper?"

The story came in a letter  
from a correspondent and he  
says it is true. He said he be-  
lieves it should be titled "Grati-  
tude." The names of the char-  
acters have been changed, he  
says, but otherwise the facts  
are on the line:

Jim was something of a town  
character in the community  
where he lived just after the  
first world war. He was pal-  
sy wally with a fellow called  
Red.

They were the kind who  
spent their days in the pool  
rooms and had a great grudge  
against life because they thought they  
had been born behind the 8-ball.  
Both were small-time offenders  
—the breed who clutter up po-  
lice blotters and keep precinct  
captains busy getting them out  
of their troubles.

Finally they decided to  
pool their talents.

Together they planned a  
theft in a nearby city. It  
wasn't a big job, but it was  
too big for them. They bung-  
led it, and a citizen who sur-  
prised them was shot to death.

When they came to trial,  
blinking at their new notoriety,

Red thought it all over and de-  
cided his own skin meant more  
to him than the traditional  
honor among thieves.

Red's reward for squealing  
was a short term in the pen.  
Jim's relatives chipped in and  
hired a good lawyer. But feel-  
ing was high in the community  
over the cold-blooded nature of  
the murder. The attorney was  
lucky to save Jim from the  
chair and get him a life sen-  
tence.

Long after Red was free, Jim  
was still in the place where  
they make little ones out of big  
ones. His family stuck by him,  
particularly his brother Frank,  
and helped him in every way  
they could.

After a dozen years or  
more, Frank began a cam-  
paign to get his brother a  
pardon.

The bitterness still hadn't  
died down. The district attor-  
ney who had sent Jim up fought  
the pardon, and it was refused.

Year after year Frank kept  
on fighting to win his brother's  
freedom. Year after year the  
pardon board turned his request  
down.

But Frank's selfless effort fi-  
nally began to win sympathy.  
A lawyer who had been a mem-  
ber of the parole board when it  
first considered the case con-  
sented to join in the appeal. He  
volunteered to handle the legal  
aspects without charge.

He and Frank went before  
the board together and won the  
parole. After nearly twenty  
years behind bars, Jim was free.

That was a number of years  
ago. Jim had learned some-  
thing in prison. When he came  
out, he went to work, and today  
he is prosperous.

Frank, who stuck faithfully  
by him, is now a hopeless crim-  
ple. And Jim?

"Jim hasn't visited his  
brother in two years," said  
the man who wrote me this  
tale.

"I forgot to tell that the vic-  
tim of the killing was shot  
through the back."

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