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4— Salem, Oregon, Monday, August 22, 1949

An Appeal to the City Council

There need be no delay in the city council's final and
binding action on the Baldock traffic plan. Approval of
the general outlines of the plan should come at Monday
night's meeting.

The latest reason given for a delay is to study effects of
proposals made by the capitol planning commission. The
commission, created by the last legislature, has suggested
the closing of street sections in the capitol group area.
This would call for a minor adjustment in one of the
phases of the Baldock plan. The commission's power,
however, is limited to suggesting only.

But a delay over this is not necessary.
The Baldock plan is a broad, basic program, backed by
state funds, to "alleviate congestion, decrease hazard and
expedite traffic flow" in Salem. It is a long-range pro-
gram, calling for the eventual expenditure by the state of
\$7,600,000.

Any such program that will take many years to bring
about will inevitably call for minor adjustments from time
to time. The suggestions of the capitol planning commis-
sion, if accepted, call for a slight adjustment in the traffic
plan. They don't amount to anything more than minor
rerouting in the capitol group area. A check with the
highway department shows that the suggestions could be
easily reconciled with the traffic pattern of the Baldock
plan.

The city has delayed long enough in coming to a final
decision on this plan which Salem itself asked the state
highway commission for several years ago.

If the council shies away from a decision now because
of some adjustments suggested by the capitol planning
commission, there will be other reasons that might be
found for delay in the future. Other minor adjustments
are bound to be suggested from time to time as the years
roll by. But that's assuming that adjustments in the
traffic plan cannot be made. And that is not true. The
Baldock plan is open to adjustment between the city and
the highway department when and if necessary. And the
highway department is right in Salem within easy call.

The basic facts look like this:

First, Salem wants and needs a traffic plan. It has been
offered an excellent one in the Baldock report, drawn up
after years of study by trained highway engineers who
live and work in Salem. The men who drew up the plan
know Salem well.

Secondly, where other cities gladly pay \$60,000 or more
for such a plan, Salem is offered one without charge. And
with the plan are millions in funds of the highway commis-
sion to back up the plan commitments.

Thirdly, West Salem voted to merge with Salem partly
on the strength of this city's previous endorsement of the
general outline of the Baldock plan which calls for a new
bridge across the Willamette between the two cities at
Marion street. A new road will parallel Edgewater street
in West Salem, according to the plan.

Fourth, when the pattern for traffic flow is thus de-
cided, then the highway commission can go ahead and
make commitments for a four-lane highway north of the
city toward Portland. But the commission can't act until
Salem itself decides how it will handle its own traffic.

And so Salem can no longer put off a decision on the
Baldock plan.

If the bridge across the Willamette is to become a real-
ity in any reasonable length of time, the plans must go on
the drawing boards soon or next year will pass by without
any action taken on that bridge.

Under the circumstances how can the council not act
Monday night?

The adjustments in the plan, as they arise, can and will
be worked out satisfactorily between both the highway
department and the city.

The people of Salem and West Salem appeal strenuously
to the council to act favorably on the traffic plan tonight
for the good of the Greater Salem area.

If Salem can't come to a decision now on the Baldock
plan, the best program yet suggested to ease traffic con-
gestion, the city won't come to a decision for so many years
to come that a plan at that time will be too late.

Let Machines Do Our Thinking

Details of a giant brain machine that "does everything
but think" have been made public in Philadelphia by its
scientist inventors, J. Presper Eckert, Jr., and John W.
Mauchly, who have named it "Binac" because it is an
automatic computer that uses the Binary numbering sys-
tem.

It is described as an intricate network of wires, vacu-
um tubes, coils and electric devices that use electric im-
pulses to add, subtract, play chess and even write music.
Its key part is a memory unit, mercury filled tubes that
store as many as 512 numbers—translated into electrical
impulses and use them in all kinds of mathematical exer-
cises.

Binac is the second such device to be produced by the
Eckert-Mauchly Computer Corp. The first, known as the
Eniac, was designed to help the U. S. government solve en-
gineering and production problems during World War II.
It was a top secret. It weighs 30 tons and costs \$500,000.
Binac weighs less than a ton and the inventors say it is
faster, more accurate and more versatile than Eniac.

The Binac inventors are hopeful of developing a machine that
can think. That will soon be a necessity if civilization is
to be preserved. The present trend is to make humans
into machines that do everything but think. This process
is already in mass production from the cradle to the grave.

It starts in both homes and schools that teach every-
thing but thinking, is carried on in assembly line industry
and business, in labor organizations, threatens the profes-
sions, the electorate in politics, and permeates government
with its demagoguery, and bureaucracy, welfare police
states, deficit spending, regimentation and totalitarianism
and its inevitable slavery, starvation and war.

When a machine that can think—that is, think rightly
in solving human problems, we can install it safely as ruler
of the world Utopia and go back to the animal existence
so many are desirous for. When we cease to think, ma-
chines are the answer.

BY BECK

Life at Its Lowest Ebb



SIPS FOR SUPPER

Reason to Be Mad

By DON UPJOHN

We've been a little worried about our old friend Leo Spitzbart
who, from all we can find out, hasn't started his whispering cam-
paign to the effect that the fair which starts two weeks from
today will be the greatest fair in the history of the institution.
In fact, we've missed Leo altogether the past few weeks, but drew
a sigh of relief when we saw his picture in our favorite pa-
per the other evening standing mightily high waist deep in a
garden of posies out at the fair grounds. Then when we read
the caption that he was standing in a petunia patch and the pe-
tunias were the zinnias looking petunias that have ever been
set down in print, maybe that explains it and he has his mad
up. The fact that he was referred to as a lonely little onion
we're sure wouldn't cause him much concern, but to refer to
one of his prize zinnia patches as inhabited by petunias is
maybe the reason he hasn't showed up to do his annual
whisperings. We don't blame him for being sore.



Don Upjohn

Saw a sign on a downtown window reading "Ladies Ready
to Wear Clothing." We hustled in as fast as we could but got
there too late—they were already wearing it.

"Two Pen Trustees" escape, says headline in the morning
paper. We hope this won't keep the board of directors from hav-
ing a quorum until the "trust-ees" get back.

Miss Renska Swart advises that her efforts to circulate
petitions to save the old courthouse building for a county museum
aren't getting the proper recognition they deserve in signatures.
She filed her original petitions with the court carrying 35 names
and has 10 more such petitions out. So she asks that anyone
interested in her plan get busy with the fountain pen so she
can get more backing.

Not much time left in the baseball season around here. But
it's still not hopeless for the Salem Senators to get into the
cellar if they keep on turning 'em in like they did yesterday.
It may be a superhuman effort will do it. And as long as they can't
be at the top of the league they'll get more publicity at the bottom
than dawdling around somewhere in between. In other
words, this middle-of-the-road stuff seems to get nobody any-
where these days.

Another earthquake reported for the Pacific northwest but as
far as our inquiries have gone nobody felt same around here.
We're perfectly satisfied if Salem decided to stay outside the
earthquake belt and don't care if the city council passes an
ordinance to that effect.

Clotheless Blonde Stops Traffic

Boston, Aug. 22 (AP)—A pretty blonde—nude except for
white panties—stopped traffic at Beacon street and Massa-
chusetts avenue.

Horns sounded and motorists whistled. Then Traffic Officer
Joseph Ahearn took her to the Back Bay police station.

There she explained—after much prompting—that her name
was Brigid McHugh of Cambridge, daughter of a Massachu-
setts Institute of Technology student.

She was hustled home—some distance from the scene of her
traffic conquest.

Oh, yes, her age—five years old.
Her mother said she'd done it many times before.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Don't Laugh at Brooklyn
—Shed a Tear for Big City

By ED CREAGH

(Substituting for Columnist Hal Boyle)

New York, Aug. 22 (AP)—Poor old Brooklyn. Nobody loves her.
Except, of course, her 2,910,000 sons and daughters. And
sometimes you can't help wondering about them. Does that
chest-thumping local pride mean that they really love Brooklyn?
Or are they merely going through the motions of cherishing a
lost cause?

Everybody who doesn't live in Brooklyn laughs at the old girl.
And nobody knows why. It's one of those curious facts of
life—say "Brooklyn" out loud and people guffaw.

This, by darn, is not fair. Brooklyn is not a funny place.
It is a sad place.

Consider its melancholy rows of somber brick houses, its
silently weeping little Allanthus ("A Tree Grows in Brooklyn")
shrubs.

It can't be just my imagination that the whistle on the
Brighton local drifts wearily into a minor key when the point
of no return is reached on the subway voyage from Manhattan.
And there's no sadder sound in all the world than the keening
at Ebbets field when the Dodgers boot one.

You can say many nice things about Brooklyn. It's New York's
boomiest borough, population-wise. It's bigger (honest, it
is) than Philadelphia, Los Angeles or Detroit. It's the borough
of churches, of homes.

Brooklyn is still a sad place. You can get almost anything
in Brooklyn. You can get a bathtub, a vitamin pill, a wig
or an antique pool table straight from the factory. You also
can get assassinated—some nervous-fingered alumni of Murder, Inc.,
are still around.

You can praise Brooklyn's people to the skies, and I'll
praise them with you. They're warm-hearted, witty,
unconquerable, sentimental—in the good sense of the word—
and kind to stray animals, including visiting New Yorkers.

But Brooklyn is still a— Take, for example, the story
about the soda jerk. All soda jerks have a hard time, but in
Brooklyn:

A little guy breezes into the
soda fountain and says, "gimme
a Flatbush special."
"A what?" says the soda jerk.
(He's sad already, see?)
"You hoid me," says the little
guy. "So I gotta tell ya how
to make it! Okay, put in three
scoops ice cream—one each
chocolate, raspberry, pistachio.
Sprinkle wit powdered walnuts.
Then lotts maple syrup. It's got-
ta be gooey."
"Then make wit' the whipped
cream. Heavy. Then one layer
chopped almonds. They gotta be
chopped fine. Then crushed
strawberries. Then some more
whipped cream. Then three
cherries. Then—"
"Look," screams the soda
jerk, "this is Thursday—you got
time to come in Saturday for a
fittin'!"
See what I mean about
Brooklyn?

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Seek to Try Vaughan
On Military Charges

(Ed. Note—While Drew Pearson is on vacation, the Wash-
ington Merry-Go-Round will be written by his old partner,
Robert S. Allen.)

By ROBERT S. ALLEN

Washington—Members of the senate "5-percenter" investiga-
ting committee are considering demanding that Maj. Gen. Harry
Vaughan be tried on military charges.

The senators have discussed the matter with authorities on
military law.

Basis for the proposed action are two factors:

(1) Vaughan is not a civilian employe of the White House. He is a reserve officer on active duty and draws pay (over \$12,000) from army funds. He is therefore subject to army regulations and rules of conduct the same as any other active officer.

(2) By his own admission, Vaughan has accepted gratuities and gifts. This is in direct violation of specific prohibitory army regulation. In addition, other charges made before the senate committee lay him open to disciplinary action on the ground of "conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman."

What the senate investigators have in mind is a formal demand that Vaughan be hailed before a court-martial.

Such a demand would put President Truman on the spot.

It would be wholly up to him to decide whether Vaughan is tried. The president has immediate jurisdiction over Vaughan, and no one in the army would risk ordering him court-martialed without presidential approval.

The senators are fully aware of this. That's why their plan has such a strong appeal for them. Putting the president on the spot is one of the primary objectives.

However, other republican senators are less enthusiastic.

One proposed a modification. He suggested dropping the court-martial demand and substituting instead removal of Vaughan as coordinator of veterans' affairs. The senator pointed out that the claim could be that Vaughan is "unfit" to handle veteran affairs and the president could be put directly on the spot with millions of ex-servicemen.

Another republican senator, a party leader, was opposed to the whole idea of taking any action against Vaughan, unless the democrats took the initiative. His view was that it would be better G.O.P. strategy for Vaughan to continue as a prominent member of the president's entourage. In that position, he would be a vulnerable target in next year's elections.

"We could plaster the country with billboards reading 'Have you got your freezer yet?'" The republican leader pointed out. "If we give Truman the chance to get rid of Vaughan he might take us up. I would if I were in his place. We don't want to outsmart ourselves in this matter."

Note—Sen. Margaret Chase Smith, R. Me., has sharply chided her investigating colleagues in closed-door sessions for talking out of turn. "If we are going to permit testimony to leak," she said, "we might as well save time by giving everything directly to the press. That is not my idea of a fair investigation."

So far, Mrs. Smith's admonitions have had no effect.

ALL SET

Rhode Island democratic chiefs have it all set on who will get what as a result of the elevation of Senator Howard McGrath to attorney general.

This is the deal: McGrath's seat will be filled with a temporary appointee, who will not run next year. He will merely keep the place warm for Governor John Pastore, who will be a candidate next year for the remainder of McGrath's term which expires in 1952. As Pastore's successor in the governorship, the leaders have selected Rep. John E. Fogarty.

Both Pastore and Fogarty are new deal democrats. The reshuffling arrangement was chiefly in accordance with Pastore's views. He is the real democratic boss of the state.

UNEASY

ECA authorities are uneasy about the situation in France.

Currently, political and economic conditions are quiet there. Inflation has been stopped, and the De Gaulleist and communist threats have subsided. Also, the chamber of deputies is in recess and a large portion of the population is enjoying the first quiet vacation period since the war.

But behind this peaceful surface are a number of disquieting factors.

Chief of them is the wide disparity between prices and wages and the known preparations of major unions for a new round of pay demands. These are expected early in the fall, with the communist unions taking the lead.

HOUSING DUTY

A take-off on the famed lyric of the late Gallagher and Shean featured the banquet the National Housing Conference gave congressional supporters to celebrate the enactment of the pro-

BY GUILD

Wizard of Odds



MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

War in China Rapidly Approaches Grim Crisis

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

China's bloody civil war is rapidly approaching the grim crisis of a last-ditch stand by the nationalists against the onrushing communist forces.

The Red steam roller from the north is moving steadily down against the great southern seaport of Canton, emergency capital of the nationalists. The communist army aiming at Canton already has captured the militarily important city of Tayu, 170 miles to the north-east.

The seriousness of Canton's position is seen in the announcement of the United States embassy that it is moving to the British crown col-



DeWitt MacKenzie

ony of Hong Kong, to the south. Report has it that the communists plan to proclaim a government of China on October 10. That is China's Independence day, anniversary of the 1911 revolution which overthrew the Manchu dynasty. Every Chinese knows it as "double tenth"—the tenth day of the tenth month.

Speculation has it in Canton that when a Red government is proclaimed it will receive immediate Russian recognition.

The position of the vitally interested American and British governments hasn't been declared. Many observers have been expecting that they would act in concert.

So far as Washington is concerned, I understand the position is that if and when a communist government is formed in China, and it asks for recognition, the request will be considered.

Although the nationalists soon will be battling with backs to the wall, there is no indication that they are weakening in their determination to fight it out to the bitter end.

The communists themselves have estimated that their opponents still have a million and a half troops in the field. Nationalist sources say that these forces are well equipped with small arms—the weapons mainly used in the war.

The key nationalist figure remains Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, despite the fact that he was withdrawn from the presidency and now holds only the position of leader of the majority political party. Chiang has his headquarters on the big island of Formosa, which is defended by 300,000 nationalist troops.

Thus, in a sense, Formosa is the real capital of nationalist China. In other words, there are two capitals, the official seat being in Canton for the moment. The guiding voice is that of the Generalissimo.

I understand, by the way that Madam Chiang Kai-Shek, who for some time has been in America, is likely to return shortly to Formosa to join her husband. That would not be surprising, for throughout the long years of China's war she was the generalissimo's right hand. He is said to have leaned heavily on her guidance.

As the result of the Red threat to Canton, the nationalist government already has started to move to the world-war capital of Chungking.

That ancient, wall-encircled city of half a million population is the commercial center of Szechwan province, an isolated agricultural area in west central China. It perches on a rocky mount beside the great Yangtze river.

Chungking is a tough place of abode, as I know from personal experience. However, it has the double virtue of being isolated from easy attack while at the same time having quick communication by air with the outside world.

It served the country well as capital during the World War, and should do the same for the nationalists.

Patience Pays Off for Gunmen

Minneapolis (AP)—Three gunmen showed a lot of patience when they robbed a saloon here.

The robbers held the tavern up, but were disappointed—briefly—to learn that the manager was at the bank.

They waited 45 minutes for him to return, then relieved him of the \$4,000 he had withdrawn and forced him to give them \$500 more from the safe.

While the bandits waited for the manager, about a dozen customers entered the saloon. As each came to the bar, the bandits covered him with their guns and forced him to sit on the floor in a side room.

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