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4— Salem, Oregon, Tuesday, August 23, 1949

The Vote of Five Men

Five city council members deserve credit for voting Monday night in the interests of Greater Salem's future. When they voted in favor of adopting the Baldock traffic plan, four aldermen and the mayor braved the vocal opponents of the plan. But the need for coming to a final decision at that time on the best-proposed traffic plan for the area left no alternative in the eyes of the five. There had been too many delays already. So many months had passed since the council had first taken up the controversial four-point traffic plan proposed by State Highway Engineer Baldock. Basis of the request of the state capitol planning commission to delay the plan further was one that really offered no conflict to the program, and so another postponement couldn't be considered necessary. The point of concern expressed by the capitol commission was one that really offered no problem that couldn't easily be reconciled to the one-way grid. There would be no difficulty in getting the state highway department, the capitol planning commission, and the city council into agreement on minor rerouting in the capitol group area.

Mayor Elfstrom's leadership in carrying through the fight for the Baldock plan these many months deserves recognition for his efforts dedicated to the city's well-being and future. It would have been easier for him to have gone along with the requests for a delay. But nothing would have been gained by a delay—except continual postponement of a decision that had to be made sooner or later. The decision adopted obviously the best plan so far suggested to ease the traffic troubles of Oregon's capital. The Baldock plan had been drawn up by expert highway and traffic engineers. And, fortunately for Salem, they were residents of the city who know the local problems. The recognition of the need for definite action was equally shared also by the four aldermen who voted, too, for the Baldock plan. The four were Tom Armstrong, Claud Jorgensen, Howard Maple and James Nicholson. They, likewise, rose to the challenge of the moment and cast their lot for the plan which they thought was for the future welfare of the city. As Nicholson inferred in his remarks before voting, the council had had the matter long enough before it. Further delay would really accomplish nothing. A favorable vote was the logical action after these many months of consideration.

The people of the cities of Salem and West Salem can thank the five members of the council for the vote of confidence in the interests of the residents of the area here. With the Baldock plan now accepted by the city, the next logical move is for both sides in the controversy thus ended, to join forces to make the plan work for the good of all residents of the community.

The Ban on Give-Aways

The recent order of the federal communications commission, effective October 1, banning programs advertising lotteries "offering prizes dependent in whole or part upon lot or chance" on radio or television is designed to knock out most of the "give-away" programs, with penalty of loss of license. While each program will be judged separately, the rules appear broad enough to cut off most of the programs that have showered cash and merchandise prizes on listening and viewing audiences. Radio officials are quoted as saying that the new rules will confine prize contests to the radio audiences—but this merely reduces the scope—it still remains a lottery. The ruling will be carried to the courts for judicial decision, and the programs continued meanwhile.

Commenting upon the ban on give-aways the Oregonian asks: "What it is about the give-away programs that so fascinates radio listeners is rather puzzling. Probably there is a sort of vicarious enjoyment in the good fortune of others who happen to be lucky enough to be called to the phone and are then lucky enough to know the right answer to whatever the quiz may be. There is a mournful satisfaction, too, in knowing the right answer to whatever was asked of and missed by another person. And probably there is widespread lack of comprehension of the odds against one's telephone number being drawn in the lottery. There are about 35,000,000 telephones in the United States.

There is nothing puzzling about it—the same old lure of something for nothing—which seems innate in human nature, which accounts for the patronage of all forms of lotteries, even if they are known camouflaged frauds—like slot machines, the one-armed bandits. A 39 million-to-one chance of winning is no deterrent, for Barnum was right, there is no such thing as something for nothing, for everything has to be paid for by someone in some way.

Nor does the fact that someone else 3000 miles away is the lucky one create any "mournful satisfaction" among the other 34,999,999 expectants. It merely keeps alive the fantastic hope all of them that lady luck will smile next time.

The give-away was designed to attract radio hearers who were getting bored with moronic commercials and passing them up, sort of a trade stimulant. If the money was spent in good programs instead of trashy ones, they wouldn't need lotteries and their use is a confession of failure.

Mrs. Pack, 86, Proves Saying, 'One's Never Too Old to Learn'

Sacramento (AP)—At an age when people are supposed to relax, Mrs. Caroline Pack of Folsom started to learn to read English. She was then 85. And she wanted to become an American citizen. Despite the fact she had been in this country more than 60 years she had never got around to qualifying for citizenship because she was too busy raising a family.

Another year ago one of her neighbors, a former school teacher, began teaching her the English alphabet. In nine months she had mastered the language, passed her naturalization examinations and attained her dream of citizenship at the age of 86.

BY BECK Actions You Regret



SIPS FOR SUPPER It's All There

About everything that makes life worth living will be on display at the 14th annual Marion county 4-H club show which starts at the State Fair grounds tomorrow noon and runs through Friday. Yea, there'll be grub of every nature both on the hoof as well as cut down to eating size, there'll be beauty and adornment both of grounds and homes, in fact, as stated, there'll be about everything to please the eye, the taste and the smell. And all of it will be the produce of Marion county youngsters. And many a one of them involved in the production of same will ever starve, live in squalor or repent the time and work spent on their endeavors. In short, it is a display by a coming generation of youngsters who have already learned how to live a life of plenitude and content, even without all the gadgets. One of the customers suggests that the cluster light removed from the downtown area to make way for a more brilliant night life in downtown Salem be clustered around Marion Square, which he says needs some lights and they'd turn the park into a place of nocturnal beauty. Sounds like a pretty good idea. But we've sort of wondered about those new lights downtown just what use they've



been this summer seeing, what with daylight savings time, there has been no use turning them on as they don't go on until after all good citizens by rights should be in bed. FT & BA Burglar Klamath Falls, (AP) — Bill Moore, 26-year-old Marine veteran who was recently struck by a car and knocked through a plate glass window, is still running in bad luck. The accident knocked out his front teeth. A plate was being made for him when the dental laboratory was burglarized and the robber removed the gold from the plate. "Now they've stolen the gold right out of my front teeth," he complained.

The Salem Lodge of Eagles in launching its campaign for an iron lung here is sure doing something that should have been done a long time ago and their campaign should be a short one. At last the Baldock plan has now got past the plan stage and maybe should now be known as the Baldock ordinance, or good idea. But we've sort of wondered about those new lights downtown just what use they've

Latest Wrinkle in Farm Problems Washington, Aug. 23 (AP)—Secretary of Agriculture Brannan drew a big laugh at a senate hearing in predicting that the farm problem "is going to give us all a few gray hairs." While senators and spectators roared, Brannan rubbed his bald head and then added: "Maybe I should change that to a few wrinkles."

Brannan was a witness before the senate agriculture committee.

MACKENZIE'S COLUMN Yugoslav Steel Deal Called 'Calculated Risk' By DeWITT MacKENZIE (City Editor's Assistant)

Washington's decision to allow Red Yugoslavia to buy a three million dollar steel mill in this country, thereby increasing that Balkan country's military potential, marks a bold development of U. S. policy. Emphasis is given to it by the probability that the Yugoslavs also will be granted a large American-backed loan from the World Bank.

Clearly this gesture toward communist Belgrade represents what Secretary of State Acheson bluntly describes as a "calculated risk."

Marshall Tito, dictator of Yugoslavia, is no friend of capitalistic Uncle Sam. It's only as far back as 1946 that the generalissimo's gunners were shooting down American airplanes, with loss of life, after our flyers had been driven over Yugoslav territory by bad weather.

Tito was made to pay reparations for this "outrageous performance" — but that didn't change the leopard's spots. True the marshal ostensibly broke with Moscow some 14 months ago over his refusal to abandon nationalism and place the sovereignty of his country in the hands of the Kremlin.

However, this whole Moscow-Tito row could be a trick to fool the western powers into giving aid to Yugoslavia — aid which later would be turned against them in furthering the expansion of the communist empire. Washington is quite well aware of that.

Why then do we lend aid and comfort to Tito? The answer is that the conflict between Moscow and Belgrade may not be phony, but the real thing. Indeed, most of the evidence seems to support this view. The present picture we have is that of a Tito who still clings to a modified communism which

stands for nationalism. He refuses to accept the Russian bolshevik edict that the sovereignty of all satellite states like Yugoslavia rests in Moscow. Assuming that Yugoslavia is at loggerheads with Moscow, there are sound reasons for giving the Balkan states assistance. These may be summed up by stating that Yugoslavia could be a powerful obstruction to further communist imperial expansion in Europe.

For one thing, the mere fact that Tito is defying the might of Russia is encouragement to other small nations to stand firm against aggression. Moreover, militarily Yugoslavia is one of the most important bases in Europe. It is the eastern sentinel of the Adriatic—Russia's gateway to that sea, across which lies an Italy that Moscow would give its right arm to bring into the bolshevik camp.

Yugoslavia is the most powerful of the Balkan states. Her 15,000,000 people not only are among the world's best fighters, I have traveled in that country—have talked with all classes. They are intensely proud of their sovereignty and are ready to fight to preserve it, a fact which lends strength to the idea that the Tito-Kremlin battle over sovereignty is the real thing.

All these circumstances explain why the United States, for the first time since the war, is deliberately sending "war-potential" material to a communist government.

Other satellite states in eastern Europe have been asking for American machinery and have been turned down for fear such materials might be used for war. But in the case of Yugoslavia the United States is taking the "calculated risk."

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND Backstage Cost Wrangle Delays Runway Lighting

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

Washington—Installation of essential runway-lighting equipment on scores of airports has been stalled for months because of a backstage wrangle over costs. Lack of these safety facilities is a serious flying hazard as many of the airfields are useless in bad weather and at night. Numerous other airports throughout the country, which have inadequate lighting equipment, also are affected by the dispute.

Principals in the protracted controversy are the civil aeronautics authority and the Welsbach corporation, Philadelphia. Last April, Welsbach took over the sale of the patented runway - lighting equipment from the Line Material company, Stroudsburg, Pa. The patents, owned by inventor Jack Bartow, Blue Bell, Pa., are so basic that CAA attorneys doubt whether any effective runway lighting can be installed without infringement.

Immediately after coming into the picture, Welsbach announced a new price schedule. It calls for a royalty of 80 cents per runway foot, plus cost of the equipment. For the average airport this means a \$4,800 charge for royalty and \$26,000 for equipment.

The CAA balked at the price. The government pays half the cost for control towers and other safety installations. CAA contends Welsbach's figures mean an added burden on the taxpayers.

The company denies that. It claims its schedule will cost \$900 on a 6,000-foot runway. CAA denies the denial. It says Welsbach will boost expenditures \$4,000 for an average airport.

COLD SOBER The big party staged by the Indian embassy to commemorate its independence was a unique experience for Washington officialdom. The party was cold sober. Everybody who was anybody attended the evening soiree. Madame Pandit, Indian ambassador, was lovely in a strikingly beautiful native gown.

The bountiful supply of alcoholic beverages usual at such affairs was totally missing. Served instead were coffee, vanilla ice cream, and cakes. There was no limit on these. Guests ate all they wanted. Many had several big helpings. But everybody was cold sober—and apparently enjoyed the unique experience very much.

NOTE—A Korean party the same day was an imbibers' delight.

ATOMIC PROBE Democratic members of the joint congressional atomic committee will try to force a report this week on the long-drawn-out investigation instigated by Sen. Bourke Hickenlooper, R., Iowa. The probe has been out of the limelight for weeks while the committee studied secret personnel records of the atomic energy commission. Some of these records have made spy reading. They are reports on the sex life of workers in atomic plants. The workers were checked by FBI loyalty agents.

Rep. Henry M. Jackson, D., Seattle, Aug. 23 (AP)—The Rev. Clive Taylor, 63, pastor of the Findlay Christian church finished his sermon. The choir and congregation began to sing an old hymn. "I can hear my Saviour calling. Take thy cross and follow, follow me..." Their voices swelled through the church. The Rev. Mr. Taylor asked that the last verse be sung. "Where he leads me, I will follow," they sang vigorously. "I'll go with him, with him all the way." The minister sat down, placed his arms on an easy chair behind the pulpit, and closed his eyes. The congregation continued singing, "Blest be the tie that binds."

The hymn finally finished, the congregation remained standing, watching the reverend, who appeared to have fallen asleep. A member of the choir shook him gently. The minister didn't move. He had died of a heart attack.

It Sounds Like in a Bad Dream New York (AP)—Lawrence Sandusky, 52, surveyed his situation—no keys, his apartment on the third floor, everybody asleep. A drain pipe from the roof passed alongside one of his windows. He did fine in getting to the roof and starting down the pipe, but a leg stuck in a bracket. He struggled and shouted. He couldn't get his leg loose, couldn't get back on the roof, couldn't waken anyone. Eight hours later—early the next morning that was—a neighbor saw his plight. A police emergency squad untangled him and took him to a hospital for treatment of leg lacerations.

BY GUILD Wizard of Odds



Send your "Odds" questions on any subject to "The Wizard of Odds," care of the Capital Journal, Salem, Oregon.

IN THE FIRST 10 MOVES IN CHESS, THERE ARE 169 OCTILLION POSSIBLE WAYS OF PLAYING.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER Doug Likes to Startle People With His Signs

By ED CREAUGH (Substituting for Columnist Hal Boyle)

New York, Aug. 23 (AP)—When a man builds a better mousetrap than his neighbor, the next thing he wants is to build a bigger mousetrap. Then a still bigger one. And, in the end, he's miserable if he hasn't built the whopping-mousetrap ever.

Something like that has happened to Douglas Leigh. Leigh is a boyish, soft-spoken Alabamian who has made himself a millionaire by creating those rattle - dazzle electric signs that swing, sway, hiss, rain, and otherwise startle the crowds on Broadway—and elsewhere.

You've seen them, in the movies in the original: The Niagara of real water that roars over Times Square, 50,000 gallons a minute; the blimps that flash advertising from the sky; the giant soldier blowing giant smoke rings.

"Spectaculars," they're called. And Leigh has dreamed up the more spectacular of them. He's been nicknamed "The Lamp-lighter of Broadway" and "The Sign Painter of America."

So—what next? How fantastic can you get? Let's sit down in Leigh's Rockefeller Center office and listen to a man who's as full of ideas as a boy with a new slingshot and a bag of pebbles:

"Well, there's our walking man. He'll be as tall as a seven and a half story building and it will look from the sidewalk as if he's stepping from the top of a theater right down onto Broadway.

"Then there's the 175-foot sign we're doing for a bank in Minneapolis. A real whopper. They'll be able to see it for miles across the wheat fields. And tell from it what the weather's going to be.

"You know about our stork? It's going to be 220 feet long and it will fly through the air, carrying a baby. We're doing it with lights on a blimp.

"If anybody gets to the moon," he said, "Doug will plant advertising signs all along the way."

"As a matter of fact," Leigh said, "we have something very special coming up. 'Lights in the sky'—that's all I can tell you now. I wouldn't say it will be more spectacular than the Northern Lights, but—well, you'll see for yourself when we unveil it."

After that, I didn't dare ask if he were keeping in touch with all the rockets-to-the-moon projects, just in case. But I did put the question to one of his associates, who nodded soberly.

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