

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

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4— Salem, Oregon, Saturday, December 10, 1949

An Admission of Fear and Weakness

The idea of an unopposed slate of republican candidates for the May primaries may be considered smart "politics" by the top command of the GOP in Oregon...

Several days ago the Republican Women's Federation urged that its party "subordinate all differences" and work for renomination of the present GOP incumbents...

Perhaps many of the office-holders with the republican label rate renomination by party members but such an arbitrary single-slate endorsement as proposed tends to make of the primary nothing but a new version of the discarded convention system of selection of candidates.

In the convention system party bosses handed down the list of candidates for the voters. The list was "picked" by a party convention.

The convention system was subject too readily to control by a group or a man. The direct primary system supposedly brought the selection of the nominees to the rank and file of party members...

Now part of the republican leadership in the state wants to ride along next year on the previously-selected candidates. Individual ability and performance of the various candidates is given no consideration...

And of all states in which such a reversion to the blanket, hand-me-down list should be proposed, it is in Oregon, first state to adopt the state-wide direct primary system.

In the elections last year the republican leadership rose above such partisanship and fear when it adopted the slogan: "Vote for the best man. May the best man win."

What has happened to the boldness of the GOP of last year?

Right-to-Work Law Upheld

The United States supreme court in its last decisions, sustained the constitutionality of the Arkansas "right-to-work" law. The opinion was written by Justice Robert H. Jackson and only Justice William O. Douglas, who is ill, didn't take part.

Two Negroes were indicted on charges of using force and violence to prevent a non-striker from working. But following their conviction, the case went through many phases in the courts, the principal controversy concerning what parts of the Arkansas statute were affected.

Four separate opinions have been handed down by the Arkansas courts, and one by the supreme court, before the present decision. Lawyers for the CIO assailed the constitutionality of the state law.

The Arkansas law contains two sections. The first makes it unlawful for any person to use force, violence or threats to keep another from engaging in any lawful vocation. The second section has two parts: (1) making it a crime for two or more persons to assemble at or near the scene of a labor dispute and by force or violence prevent, or try to prevent, anyone from engaging in lawful work; and (2) prescribing it unlawful for any person, acting alone or with others, to "promote, encourage or aid any such unlawful assemblage."

In March, 1948, the United States supreme court upset the convictions and returned the case to the Arkansas supreme court. The supreme court at Washington, said the men were tried for violating one part of the act, but the Arkansas tribunal ruled that they had violated another part.

In its conclusion, the court held that Section 2 of the Arkansas law "fairly appraises men of ordinary intelligence that for two or more to assemble and by force or violence prevent or attempt to prevent another from engaging in any lawful vocation constitutes an unlawful assemblage, and that the promotion, encouragement, or aiding thereof, is unlawful."

There is no law more violated by labor unions and by the government itself, especially during wartime, than the inherent right of every man to work, without paying tribute to racketeers and being punished therefor by goon squads. Every prolonged strike brings new instances of its violation, and it ought not to require a supreme court affirmation for its enforcement.

The Country and Liberal coalition, combining the Free Enterprise opposition, have apparently won the Australian general election and turned out the Socialist Labor party and will govern Australia for the next three years, thus halting the trend to eventual totalitarianism.

The contest was for control of the 123-seat house of representatives. If final returns confirm the opposition victory, it will mean the end of socialist rule in Australia after eight years. Neighboring New Zealand also kicked out its socialist government 10 days ago, and Winston Churchill's conservatives in Britain hope to oust the mother country's socialist government in an election early next year.

A. W. Fadden, leader of the Country party, issued a statement attributing the swing to the right to: 1. Australia's "general discontent" with socialism. 2. Its fear of "Socialism's twin brother, communism." The labor government has refused to outlaw the communist party despite opposition demands.

About five million votes were cast. Robert Menzies, liberal leader, who will become prime minister, commented: "The socialists were brought to power in New Zealand, Australia and Great Britain in that order. This dramatic result seems a happy omen that they will go out in that same order."



THE FIRESIDE PULPIT

Why Should There Be So Much Darkness in the World?

BY REV. GEORGE H. SWIFT
When the ancients understood the absolute dependence of living things on the sun's light and other rays, they became sun-worshippers. It would be surprising if they had not. The astrologers of two thousands years ago were searching the heavens for the key to terrestrial problems and events. Any star might well ask why there should be so much darkness in the world today.

The answer is found in Scripture: "The light shineth in darkness, and the darkness comprehendeth it not." The light truly shineth in every man's soul, but it is all too often hidden there under doubts and fears, taboos, despairs, and other forms of darkness. The purpose of the dissemination of Christian teaching has been for 1900 years, and still is, to help people to a fuller realization of this Light, and its power to light up the souls of all men everywhere.

SIX LIVES MORE THAN A CAT
Tokyo, Dec. 10 (AP)—Hiromasa Sato tried—oh, how he tried—to end his life. He tried 15 times in all, up in northern Hokkaido. The record shows: He took cyanide once, tried hanging himself six times, jumped in front of trains eight times. He finally piled railroad ties on the tracks. The idea was to derail a train, kill a few people and then be punished for the crime. The attempt failed—but that's how Sato finally got into court.

Ready to Quit
BY DON UPJOHN
A story in our favorite paper the other evening by Bill Warren of the United Press advising that Governor Doug McKay is admiral of the state's navy including command of the ferry boats has stirred a quick response in the soul of County Commissioner Ed Rogers. One of Ed's duties as a county commissioner is to act as admiral of the ferry fleet—or so he thought—until he read Bill's story. It has been, among other things, one of Ed's jobs to try to keep the Wheatland ferry in operation. This recalcitrant barge has a hard time of it. Either the water is too high or too low, either the current is too swift or too sluggish, or when these troubles are not rife the river throws up a sand bar at the approach and the ferry is stuck again.

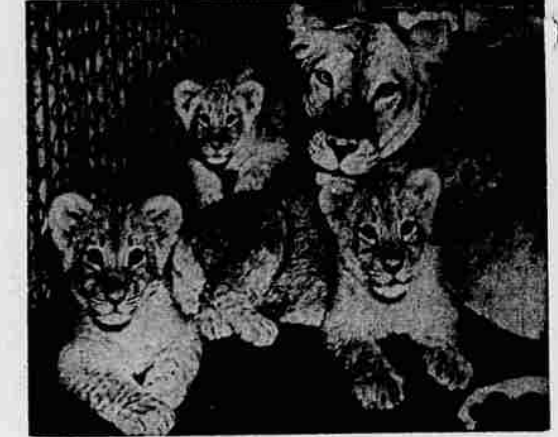
Tokyo, Dec. 10 (AP)—Welfare officials polled local youngsters on what they want to be when they grow up. "School teachers," said the girls. "Baseball players," said the boys. But one fourth grader decided there's only one job for him. He wants to be the emperor of Japan.

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND
Chapman Learns How to Be Dry in Wet Washington

By DREW PEARSON
Washington—Colorado is a dry state, at least atmospherically speaking, but not half so dry as its own son, Oscar Chapman, the new secretary of interior. Washington, on the other hand, is wet. From the 12-noon martini to the 12 o'clock nightcap, there is a constant round of wetness.

him. More recently he has been in competition with the Vanadium corporation in Colorado and New Mexico. He now has his own caribou mine in Colorado where he produces pitchblende and uranium. American interests have been trying to block him. Pregel is a member of the French Legion of Honor and is one of only three Americans to receive an honorary membership in the French Doctors of Engineers, the other two being Dwight Eisenhower and Herbert Hoover.

Sandra Has Early Christmas
Sunnyside, Wash., Dec. 10 (AP)—Eight-year-old Sandra Pitzer's premature Christmas is a community project. Her classmates brought a nickel each to school yesterday; the Junior Chamber of Commerce has donated cash; business men have come up with toys and trinkets; firemen have added more playthings; and other city residents contributing things that would make a kid's Christmas a happy one.



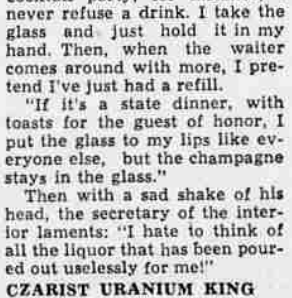
Family photo on the boss's desk . . .

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER
Hal's Been Sick, So Bongo Has Been Visiting Him

BY HAL BOYLE
New York (AP)—Bongo came back the other night. I hadn't seen him for a year. Quickly I put my pillow over my face and counted: "1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10." But when I looked again he was still there, filling the doorway with his vast bulk.

My wife awoke and saw me shivering and haggard-eyed. "What's the matter with you?" "I been playing checkers with Bongo." "Oh, dear," said Frances, "you're sick again. You've got a fever." The thermometer showed she was right. So for the next two days she stoked me with orange juice and aspirin. Bongo stayed away during the daytime, but each night he came back.

Georgia Admires Mothers
Madera, Calif., Dec. 10 (AP)—Mrs. John T. Gibbs of Atlanta, Ga., who was the mother of twins and then triplets within 10 months, is due for a new washing machine. Five former Georgia farmers have sent the following telegram to Ralph Magill, Editor of the Atlanta Constitution: "Georgia boys of Madera, Calif., always admire those who produce. Therefore, we are shipping to you to be delivered to Mrs. Gibbs, mother of triplets and twins, one new washing machine. (Signed) the Bakers, the Poythres, the Ridgways, the Kings, and the Rogers."



Hal Boyle

OPEN FORUM
Truth on Government Spending

(Editor's Note: Letters to the Open Forum must be limited to 300 words and must be signed by the writer.) To the Editor: I am quoting an article which was published in "Sips for Supper" of the Capital Journal of November 28, as it seems worthy of repetition as a means of divulging the truth regarding government financing. "Complaint is being heard from Washington that the campaign to sell 'E' bonds is not receiving a too ready response and sales are tapering off. This is a case where a job of overselling has been done if there ever was one. People have been given a diet of 'Buy Savings Bonds' morning, noon and night for nearly a decade and it's beginning to run off their backs like water off the feathery duck. This is one case where more bonds will be sold with less ballyhoo."

Christmas Spirit in Evidence
St. Louis, Dec. 10 (AP)—Noses pressed against the display window, two small Negro boys in patched clothing watched intently. The drug store employe was laying track for an electric train. Elmer Sona, the track layer, beckoned to the boys to come inside. They entered timidly. But they went to work with a will when he said, "I don't know much about trains—how about helping?" The kids were very busy for the next hour. They unpacked train cars, built the small station, helped get the automatic log loader working. A large crowd of spectators gathered outside, and the Christmas spirit was much in evidence.

Just What the Doctor Ordered

Washington, Dec. 10 (AP)—You might say that this calling card is just what the doctor ordered. A visiting doctor at the AMA convention told a reporter to look him up sometime if the newsmen came to his town. Then he produced from his pocket a "card" bearing his name and address—a blank prescription paper.