

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

By Carrier: Weekly, 25c; Monthly, \$1.00; One Year, \$12.00. By Mail in Oregon: Monthly, 75c; 6 Mos., \$4.00; One Year, \$8.00. U. S. Outside Oregon: Monthly, \$1.00; 6 Mos., \$6.00; Year, \$12.00.

4— Salem, Oregon, Tuesday, July 1, 1952

GOVERNMENT BY CRONIES

One of the evils the democratic party has inflicted on the nation in its overlong regime, especially under the Truman administration is "government by cronies." The era of corruption that has resulted is one of the results. The "Missouri gang" has too long been in the saddle and the remnants still are.

We have but to recall the familiar names of a few who have featured the crime wave resulting, such as Vaughn, Costello, Hunt, O'Dwyer, Maragon, Erickson, Rosenbaum, Merl Young, Boyle, McGrath, Caudle, Davison and many others, to realize the menace of crony government.

And another democratic president wouldn't change a system now well entrenched for a generation because he would owe his election to it.

The election of Taft would merely substitute another crony government, composed of Taft's intimates, the "Ohio gang," backed by the Old Guard of standpatters and isolationists, subsidy and tariff beneficiaries, intolerant and uncompromising. And as greedy and intolerant and autocratic as the Fair Dealers.

Any hope that the Taft steamroller of professional political spoil seekers and ward-healers would purify the national atmosphere is illusionary. The Texas and Louisiana republican delegations steal is an example of their lofty morality. And the invitation extended Joe McCarthy, whose baseless slanders had the approval of Taft himself to address the national GOP convention is another proof that Taft's election will be only a change in cronies—not a clean-up of the system.

The only way we can obtain a thorough cleansing of the Augean stables of government is to elect an honest and capable leader like Eisenhower, and his ignorance of politics is his greatest asset with the people. His political inexperience is a credit. He is clean because he has never dabbled in politics—and he is the only candidate who can do the sweep-up job, or at least make a sincere effort to.

Purification of politics will remain "an iridescent dream" if Taft is elected president.

FREEDOM FOR PARK BOARD

Salem's new park board, in its first official survey of the city's parks last week-end, pointed to the possibilities of development of the Bush's Pasture site in the heart of town. The 100-acre site was described as in a class by itself as a public park and a recreation possibility.

There are other possibilities for park development, especially in the new westside park area recently bequeathed to the city by the late Paul Wallace. This piece of some 20 acres of land along the Willamette river probably got a good amount of attention because of its newness and the possibility for river-front park development which is so fitting for a city along the banks of the Willamette.

The park board is expected to come up with recommendations later this month as to what its aims should be for this year and for the years to come. In drawing up this so-called list of aims and objectives, the board should feel free to recommend what it believes is in the best long-range interests of the city for parks and recreation.

Since the board was given no outline of a program, the board could take only the basic sites and what development has already been accomplished and go from there. Five years ago the Salem long-range planning commission included some recommendations for park development for the city. Although that was before the new westside Wallace park area was a reality, there were several recommendations at that time for river-frontage parks, including the Wallace park site.

The park board, under chairmanship of Mark Astrup, should be encouraged to feel free to include in its recommendations not only a program for the present park system but also a program to provide for additional park sites before such sites get out of reason as to cost, with the city growing as it is.

Father's Act 'Miraculous'

Hugo, Okla. (AP)—A frantic father, crippled since childhood, rose from his wheel chair at a family picnic Monday night to save his 11-year-old daughter from drowning.

Olen Petty, however, could not reach his son, Joe, 9, who sank within inches of his grasping fingers. The body was recovered later.

Joe and his sister, Lucille, were wading in Schooner lake, 18 miles northeast of here, and stepped into deep water. "It was miraculous," said their uncle, Ceel Garner, in regard to Petty's attempt to save them.

Petty, he said, is able to walk only on his hands and knees. Witnesses, shocked by the tragedy, were unable to recall how he reached his children from the bank so quickly.

Hitch-Hiker Gets Taken for 'Ride'

Newark, N. J. (AP)—Claude Hammond of New York City was trying to hitch a ride Monday near Newark airport.

Finally, a sedan carrying three men stopped. One of the men asked Hammond to show some identification, and then he would get a lift.

Out came Hammond's wallet, which he promptly handed over to the trio. They took out \$7, returned the wallet, and then sped away, Hammond reported to police.

Covered-Wagon Travel Tough

Centuria, Ill. (AP)—It took a Mattoon, Ill., couple back to pioneer days to travel 100 miles in a covered wagon. It also took them four days.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis S. Reed had a hunch it would be tough. They hired a truck to take their home furnishings ahead to their new Mt. Carmel, Ill. home. They took the "hard way" because it seemed a good way to take their covered wagon relic and horse with them.

Can't Find the Cemetery

Colrain, Mass. (AP)—Colrain grange wants to clear Cata-mont Hill cemetery, which dates back to the town's settlement in 1761, but it can't find it.

Boy Scouts have offered to blaze a trail to the cemetery, now overgrown with brush.

The grange plans a work bee next month — if the cemetery is found.

BY BECK

A Dog's Life



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Old West Still Young Enough To Have Its Living Pioneers

By HAL BOYLE

Miles City, Mont. (AP)—The old west is still young enough to have its living pioneers.

They are the old timers, who came here in their youth, or the children of those who came still earlier, and homesteaded a fence less frontier.

It was a titanic lonely gamble for most—a lifetime gamble in a vast rolling land, where drought sometimes starved their stock in summer and the bitter cold froze their herds in winter.

It was a long battle for enough water and the right kind of weather. The land broke many of the early comers, but many stayed and broke the land.

Once a year these pioneers gather in reunion here and talk about old times. They call themselves range riders, because that is what they were. And if you refer to them as cowboys, they will dryly point out that a cowboy is a critter that inhabits Hollywood.

They are a wonderful people, marked by a great calm and dignity. Their hard-won victory shows in their sun-creaked countenances, and the far reach in their eyes. The earth and sky of endless Montana has been stamped by time in their faces. Among those at the reunion of the range riders this year was Mrs. Susan Haughian, about whom I have written before.

Mrs. Haughian came here as a sprightly lass from Ireland. Now in her 65th year, she has ten children and 24 grandchildren—and she is as sprightly ever.

Today she and her family own or lease more than 100,000 acres, but there were times when she and the kids weren't even sure of their groceries. Susan has had a rugged life, full of many troubles.

"But I wouldn't change one thing," she said. "I wouldn't change one thing."

There is a new whisper of wealth in Montana—oil. The search for black gold has brought a new kind of pioneer here.

But no matter how much oil they find, they will never play the romantic role of the homesteaders—the old range riders who tamed the land on horseback.

He is a big, graying man with a gusty laugh, who thinks any day is wasted if he doesn't spend at least part of it on horseback. As a state senator one of Cremer's first proposals was to solve America's political troubles by moving the national capital from Washington, D. C., to Montana.

His tongue-in-cheek suggestion met a rather cool reception out here.

"We're against it," one rancher said. "All those politicians would just stir up the cattle. Let 'em graze where they are."

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Patrolman As One-Man Roadblock

Schneckady, N. Y. (AP)—Patrolman Richard Walcott, the one-man roadblock, thought for a minute he was headed the wrong way on a one-way street.

Before he finished writing a ticket, 10 more cars were lined up behind it.

Walcott pointed to a nearby warning sign and handed out 10 more summonses.

Britain's First Atomic Blast To Be Some Sort of 'Device'

By HAROLD GUARD

London (AP)—Scientists here say Britain's first atomic explosion, expected in August, may put her years ahead of anybody else in nuclear research.

When Prime Minister Winston Churchill announced last February that Britain intended to test an "atomic weapon," his critics immediately said it was a waste of time and money to duplicate what the United States already had done.

But scientists have different ideas. They believe the experiment at the Monte Bello Islands off northwest Australia will explode all theories that Britain has fallen behind in the atomic race.

Actually, it will project Britain theoretically into the year 1960 of the atomic age, they say.

One scientist said Britain actually has been in a position to produce its own atom bombs for about four years. The design of the "device" to be used at Monte Bello is the result of eight years of secret research, he said.

"To put it bluntly we believe we have overhauled America in atomic research despite the critics and despite the vast resources America has at her disposal," the scientist said.

He said the development period of atomic research in Britain has now ended and the government has completed the complex organization which from now on will supply "the practical expres-

sions of past thought and experiment."

On details of Britain's secret weapon, scientists act characteristically absent minded beyond remarking, "It embodies a huge volume of nuclear knowledge."

"But why do you always refer to a bomb?" one scientist said.

This comment and informed opinion in the daily press and scientific journals prompted the conclusion that Britain's secret would be revealed as a new and simpler method of detonation which would be much safer to handle than its American counterpart.

One thing appears certain — that there will be no bomb exploded on the Monte Bello.

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

GOP Price Control Strategy Planned to Embarrass Demos

By DREW PEARSON

Washington — In republican cloakrooms on Capitol Hill where they really let their hair down in hot weather, the GOP strategy on price control is discussed something like this:

"If we pass a weak price control bill, Truman will veto it. Then if prices rise, we can blame him for having no price controls at all."

"Or, if we pass a weak bill and Truman doesn't veto it, it will be impossible of enforcement and Truman will get the blame for not keeping prices down. So its heads we win, tails the democrats lose."

This is a raw way of putting it, but in an election year, strategy can be pretty raw indeed. And this rawboned strategy has influenced many GOP congressmen, despite the following none-too-happy factors on the economic horizon:

1. Prices are now at an all-time high.

2. The dumping of a large amount of government securities on the market will certainly lead to more inflation.

3. Business is experiencing a new upturn after being in the semi-doldrums for some time.

4. Defense orders, which haven't been placed in nearly as large a volume as the Pentagon would have you believe, are now reaching a peak. This is where controls create the greatest national saving.

Note — Though republicans may be to blame for the present stymie on controls, the administration wasted priceless time immediately after the Korean war started when it did not take advantage of a price control act handed it by congress.

Pan American Airways Gravy

Certain congressmen tried to camouflage it, but the house interstate and foreign commerce committee voted out an airline subsidy bill the other day that was exactly what Pan American Airways had ordered. The effect was the same as if the congressmen had voted to shift \$17,000,000 a year from the taxpayers' pockets to Pan Am's treasury.

The bill had been grafted to slip through congress early in June, as the result of a preliminary 16 to 1 vote. However, when this column exposed the amazing backstage wire pulling by the Pan Am lobby, it threw the committee into an uproar and delayed the bill for a few weeks. The publicity resulted in seven congressmen switching their votes, but failed to stop the Pan Am subsidy which was adopted by a secret 14 to 8 vote.

Because of the bad publicity, the congressmen took the precaution of doctoring up the bill with amendments, so it wouldn't resemble the original Pan Am bill too closely. But beneath the fancy language, it still means \$17,000,000 to Pan American Airways.

The bill pretends to separate air mail pay from government subsidy, but instead of basing mail pay on the cost plus a reasonable profit, the bill pegs the mail carrying charges at an inflated, arbitrary rate. Result is that Pan Am would draw an extra \$17,000,000 a year, and the public would be deceived into thinking this was fair compensation for carrying the mails.

Pan Am's publicity experts have been putting out the story that they are entitled to the extra mail subsidy in order to pay for defense features that the airlines have been asked to build into 331 planes. The truth is, however, that the cost of defense modification is paid by an extra \$70,000,000 direct from the air force. Not one cent for this comes out of air mail subsidies.

No matter how you look at it, the inflated subsidies are still gravy. Instead of financing defense features, in planes, these subsidies really contribute to the plush salaries paid to airline executives, the fancy parties thrown for congressmen, and orchids given to lady passengers.

The Secret Vote

Chairman Robert Crosser, Ohio democrat, was so concerned over the committee's earlier bad publicity received in this column, that he issued a strict warning against leaking out the secret vote. Nevertheless, here is how each member voted: Those for Pan Am were: Democrats — Priest of Tennessee, Harris of Arkansas, Rogers of Florida, Stanley of Virginia, and Roberts of Alabama; republicans — Hinshaw of California, Hall of New York, O'Hara of Minnesota, Hale of Maine, Dolliver of Iowa, Bennett of Michigan, Hoffman of Illinois, Chenoweth of Colorado, and Beamer of Indiana.

Those voting against Pan Am were: Democrats Klein of New York, Granahan of Pennsylvania, Williams of Mississippi, Thornberry of Texas, Heller of New York, and Moulder of Missouri; plus two republicans, Wolverton of New Jersey and Heseltin of Massachusetts.

Chairman Crosser didn't vote on the grounds that the chairman is supposed to cast his ballot only in case of a tie. On less ticklish matters, however, Crosser hasn't hesitated to vote in the past. Another congressman who

BY CARL ANDERSON

Henry



Lotus Blossom Came From Seeds Thousands of Years Old

Washington (AP)—The national capital parks reported proudly Monday that there's a blossom on a lotus tree at the Kenilworth aquatic gardens here.

It's no ordinary blossom, mind you. It bloomed on a tree grown from seeds that are tens of thousands of years old.

A spokesman for the parks said he couldn't say whether such a thing had ever happened before, but he said it was a mighty remarkable occurrence, no matter how you look at it.

The seeds from which the Indian lotus grew were found in geologic deposits in southern Manchuria two years ago by Dr. Seido Endo, paleontologist at Sendai university in Japan.

Dr. Endo said the seeds were found under a layer of rocks and were at least tens of thousands of years old.

He gave some of the seeds to Dr. Ralph W. Chaney of the University of California and he, in turn, presented two of the seeds to the national parks.

There the ancient seeds were babied along. First they were germinated in a test tube and given the benefit of all protections known to science.

At last, during the late summer of 1951, they were planted in the ground. Parks officials said they hoped the lotus would blossom by fall this year.

But sure enough, out sprouted a pretty pink blossom Sunday. "Must have been the heat," said the spokesman.

Farmer Luigi's Trip to Town

Rome (AP)—Farmer Luigi Costa came to town to spruce up a bit for July.

He bought a snappy new suit, had his grey hairs tinted back to their original brown, and went back to his farm smelling sweetly of shaving lotion and pomade.

"Well—my big watchdog just didn't recognize me," he told doctors who treated him at a hospital for bad bites and lacerations.

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