

Capital Journal

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TYPICAL MCCARTHY SMearing

The senate's foreign relations committee after thorough investigation confirmed President Eisenhower's nomination of Charles E. Bohlen to be ambassador to Russia. Notwithstanding the staunch support given Bohlen by Secretary of State Dulles and the president himself, McCarthy is continuing his characteristic smear tactics based, as Senator George says, on "anonymous letters, rumor and hearsay in the FBI's secret report to the state department." None of it, Dulles says, involves any question of Bohlen's loyalty and security. Yet McCarthy wants "a lie detector test."

Anyway the incident has demonstrated the unsubstantiated charge or fear that whenever McCarthy cracks the whip the president and his advisers jump and obey, and that his defiance prevails in congress on matters affecting executive prerogatives.

Dulles has officially stated that Bohlen is "uniquely qualified" for the Moscow post, especially since the succession of Malenkov to Stalin's job and the increasing tension of Soviet relations with the West and the attacks on American and British aircraft. The need is imperative that the U.S. have a qualified ambassador at Moscow as soon as possible, and the appointment of one is important in a personal way and the president's prerogative of office.

An ambassador does not make foreign policies, though his report may influence them. His is not the function of a policy maker—that function belongs to the president and his cabinet and their foreign experts.

Objection to confirming Bohlen was based on his defense of concessions made to Stalin by Roosevelt at Yalta. That is not the issue for he was not chosen as a policy maker. The secret pacts are denounced by the republicans on grounds that neither FDR nor HST had legal powers to make them and that they were dupes of Stalin when they did. Bohlen did testify, however that Nationalist China should have been represented, instead of ignored at Yalta and its territorial claims should not have been vacated by wartime allies.

McCarthy has no valid case against Bohlen as the senate will probably recognize it by his confirmation in spite of McCarthyism.

THE 'SKYSCRAPER' BILL

A perennial piece of legislation, commonly known as the "Skyscraper" bill was buried by the house of representatives Monday by an overwhelming vote.

This bill would have removed an excise tax exemption granted to building owners who derive 95 per cent of their income from rentals. This exemption was granted to these building owners when the law was enacted in 1929 for two principal reasons:

First, that the building owners paid a heavy property tax based on a valuation that was at least a third higher than the average valuation placed on other property; and, Second, that the building owners did not enjoy any personal property offset as did other corporations.

Rep. Lee Ohmart, chairman of the house tax committee, who along with seven other members of the committee, brought in a report recommending indefinite postponement of the bill, declared that the same reasons for the exemption exist today that prompted the exemption back in 1929.

Every time this bill has come before the legislature it has been defeated. Until the equalization program now being carried on statewide by the state tax commission under which it is hoped to bring about more equity in valuations of various types of property, the effort to bring about repeal of this exemption should be forgotten. It is simply a waste of the legislators' time to make an effort to do something that it is generally agreed cannot be done until the equalization program has been completed.

GOOD NEWS FOR SALEM

The public does not yet know what the sale of the government alumina plant here to the Harvey Machine company will mean in terms of future production and payroll and probably the buyers do not know either, to a certainty.

But the plant was doing no one any good in government hands, and the buyers expect to use it or they would not have agreed to the \$325,000 purchase price, so we are assured an industry where we have none at present.

And it appears to be an industry with a future. If alumina can be made from local clays instead of imported from distant parts of the world at a competitive price a large expansion seems likely. The buyers are obviously laying a substantial wager that the project is economically feasible.

So Salem has taken an important industrial stride, the second so far this month. The Moore Business Forms company earlier announced that it will virtually double the size of its plant here. Salem is on the way.

Willys Merges With Kaiser's

New York (AP)—Common stockholders of Willys-Overland Motors, Inc., meet April 24 to vote on a merger with the Kaiser-Frazer Corp. that will make the new firm the fourth largest automotive manufacturer in the world.

Negotiations were completed last night for purchase of Willys-Overland for an estimated \$62,300,000, by the Kaiser Manufacturing Corp., wholly-owned subsidiary of Kaiser-Frazer.

Edgar F. Kaiser, president of Kaiser-Frazer, said the merger is the biggest of its kind in the history of the automotive industry.

The new firm will rank fourth in size behind General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co., and Chrysler Corp. It pushes Studebaker Corp., the present

fourth-ranking auto maker, into fifth place. The transaction is subject to approval by Willys-Overland common stockholders and by the Reconstruction Finance Corp., which has \$48,417,000 in loans outstanding to Kaiser-Frazer.

Millions Saved, Is Post Office Promise

Washington (AP)—A post office department plan which would improve rural postal service and save the taxpayers "millions of dollars" at the same time is scheduled to get under way April 1.

Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield announced the reorganization plan yesterday.

It would establish new rural free delivery routes and revise other RFD and star contract routes to conform with population shifts and highway improvements since World War II.

LEGISLATORS as Seen by Murray Wade



WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Eager Beaver Public Relations Firm Gets Railroads in Dutch

Washington.—A new chapter in the battle between the railroads and the trucks has just been revealed in a suit brought by the Pennsylvania Motor Truck association against 31 eastern railroads and against the eager-beaver public relations firm of Carl Byoir & Associates.

It indicates that the Byoir firm has got the railroads into a peck of trouble. For the way this high-powered public relations office went about influencing public opinion was by paying a member of the New York State Federation of Women's clubs, by subsidizing a newspaper columnist, by putting money behind the Citizen's Tax League of New York, and by paying the expenses of a member of the Maryland state highway commission.

WHAT DID THEY KNOW? How much the eastern railroads knew about the operations of their public-opinion molder has not been clearly revealed in the court battle—a battle which may result in some moves by congress.

However, the railroads must have known that Carl Byoir was investigated by the McCormack committee prior to Pearl Harbor for being a propagandist from Nazi Germany, and that official testimony revealed that the Byoir firm "handled the contract with the German tourist bureau with the fee for service set at \$6,000 a month... The contract was secured with the help of George Sylvester Viereck (later sentenced to six years in jail for being a Hitler agent)..."

The committee finds that the services rendered by Carl Byoir Associates were largely of a propaganda nature. "We formed the Empire State Transport League in New York because we needed an organization that could legitimately mail all types of propaganda on the general subject of trucks and highways." The memo then recites some of the problems involved in stirring up the public against the truckers.

"We went first to Charley Symington, of Symington Gould. Everyone in the railroad business told us Charley would do anything to help the railroads. Charley ducked the job neatly. Others either ducked out entirely or promised to do things they never did. We wound up with a few fellows, some of whom allowed their names to be used, but that was all."

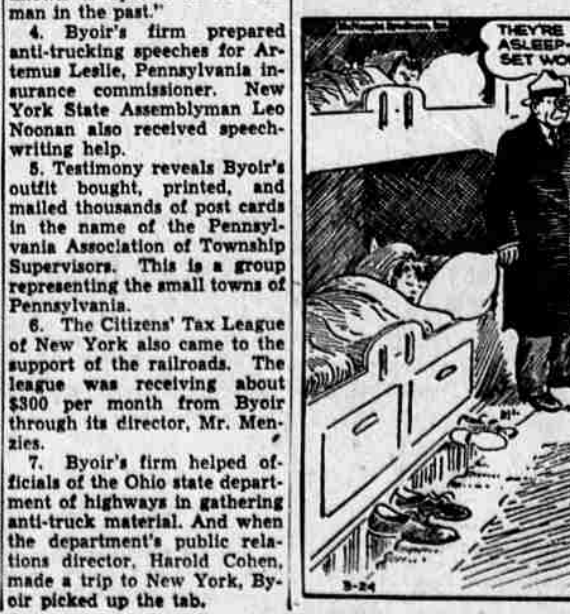
"One motor club we tried to get was largely owned by a director of the Erie Railroad. We tried to get Johnston, president of the Erie, to speak to his director and get that motor club to join the fight. We never heard another word."

The 1951 memo concludes with a recommendation that the railroad presidents be urged to show more interest in the campaign so their subordinates would be more cooperative.

Thus developed the million-dollar-a-year campaign to "educate" the American public. (Copyright, 1953)

BY BECK

That Frustrated Feeling



OPEN FORUM

Takes Gloomy View of Trend Toward Cities

To the Editor: In an editorial in early March captioned "Declining Farm Population," the author lauds such a migration, and contends there is nothing to be alarmed about.

The good editor's interpretation on this vital matter is as far removed from the truth and the general good of our country as would be a landscape in Peru compared to one in Pennsylvania if you will!

Cities always were considered cemeteries for humanity. The city dweller misses that closeness to nature which is a symbol of faith and a reminder of eternal values. They miss life's yearning for itself. That reaching out and at least touch the fingertips of nature.

In the depth of himself he loses that feeling of kinship with all life and of participation in its mysterious process—as it were that feeling of being an instrument of God.

Unfortunately, gullible greed has brought to bear a totalitarian philosophy of survival of the fittest upon the farmer as well as upon other enterprises.

In this city migration trend, farm real estate debts have risen, longer hours of work for the farmer have ensued, fewer hours of work for the city dweller. Where does this leave us?

Instead of a higher standard of living, it has produced a higher plane of mechanized non-profit living for the farmer. It is a gala day for the farmer if he can buy a new hat that he can call his own.

We suppose the editor's next consolation to the farmer will be that today he lives longer than those of the 18th century. Yes, true, if we didn't how else could we pay our taxes! EDW. HAMMER, Mt. Angel, Route 1.

TAPE RECORDER

(Albany Democrat-Herald) The Roseburg News-Review says the circuit court of Douglas county is about to install a tape recording device to record the proceedings of the court.

This is designed to take the pressure off the court reporter, who now takes a stenographic report of everything that is said and done in the court. It's a tough job, and recesses are often called to give the hard-worked stenographer a chance to rest his hand.

It's still probably a long way in the future, but no doubt the time will come when the court record will be completely kept by mechanical process. This would save much time in the completion of the report, since part of the taped record could be typed while the recorder was still operating quietly in the courtroom.

Salem 51 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL
March 24, 1902
Washington is anticipating explosions that will shake the treasury department to its very foundations. One official in charge of certain construction at a yearly salary of \$1000 is building himself a \$50,000 house.

George H. Williams, attorney general under president Grant, was today offered the Republican nomination for mayor of Portland. Williams is now over 80 years of age.

An editorial in the Capital Journal states: "No matter which faction controls the state convention or the legislature, the state house has got to be cleaned up from top to bottom."

A small audience greeted the "White Slave" Saturday owing to the most inclement weather of the season. But those who attended enjoyed the play very much, as it was the rich, old-style melodrama full of action and good acting.

Harry Ralph and his father yesterday rescued a dog that had fallen into an uncovered well on Fairmount hill. The dog's barking and whines attracted Ralph and after hard work this pet that belongs to L. H. McMahan was saved from drowning. There should be a law against leaving wells uncovered as children as well as animals are liable to meet death in such a trap.

J. H. Haas announces he will be Republican candidate for Marion county treasurer.

Marion county Socialist's platform would put all public officials on a flat salary, have government ownership of the locks at Oregon City and election of senators, the president and supreme judges by a direct vote of the people.

A weekly paper called Salem Weekly Democrat succeeds the Salem Weekly Review. A. M. Dalrymple and R. A. Harris will be publishers. Mr. Dalrymple has been for some time an employe on the Journal force and is secretary of the Democratic central committee. He is a stalwart of stalwarts and a very competent man. Harris has been identified with the Socialist party and is an able writer. First issue of the Weekly will be out next week.

Alderman Griswold has taken hold of a live wire. He is talking municipal ownership of light.

Meneley Concert company will be in Salem April 1 at First Methodist church.

Jos. Meyer & Son, at the

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Hal Says They Don't Let You Get Any Fun Out of Illness

By HAL BOYLE
New York (AP)—Have you had any fun being sick lately? If so, I'd like to know how. It seems to me there is a plot afoot to keep a fellow from getting even the slightest pleasure out of his ailments anymore. And your doctor, your wife and your best friends are all in on the conspiracy.

It used to be that a man, at the onset of a sore throat, a mild fever or an upset stomach, could take to his bed with a sense of quiet satisfaction and mild self-importance. His wife would pet and pamper him, the neighbors would drop in for a consoling chat, the family doctor would come, feel his pulse, write a prescription and say, "Just stay in bed, and you'll be as good as new in a few days."

An illness then was a relaxing, satisfying, restful experience. All a fellow had to do was gargle a bit, or gulp some foul-tasting medicine every few hours. The rest of the time he could just lie there and feel himself healing, or listen to the radio or catch up on his reading.

Nobody blamed him for his illness. Falling sick—and getting well again—were all part of normal living. Not today. It is an insult to modern medicine if you get sick now. You are being ungrateful to science.

You get a sore throat, and decide you will stay home and nurse it. That's what you think. You find out that people don't stay home sick anymore.

"You're not going to stay around here, moaning and groaning and feeling sorry for yourself," says the wife. "What are we paying money into that hospital plan for?"

"But I ain't sick enough to go to a hospital."

"Oh, yes you are. You know our doctor doesn't like to make home calls anymore. He's too busy. If I phone him, he'll tell you to go to the hospital."

White Corner, "Salem's Greatest Store," offers as Easter specials: 5c standard calico, yard, 3c; Amoskeag gingham, yard, 5c; bath towels, 15c; Lonsdale muslin, yard, 7 1/2c; 75c taffeta silk, yard, 59c; 50c work shirts, 35c; 60c underwear, 37c; men's socks, pair, 15c; 35c henrietta, yard, 19c. Rambler bicycles sold by Shipp and Hauser range in price from \$25 to \$60 for chain-ride models.

Los Angeles (AP)—An autopsy revealed an acute intestinal infection today in the death of San Francisco society beauty Conde Lee Benoit, heiress to a brewery fortune, who died after being taken off the liner President Cleveland. Miss Benoit became ill aboard ship yesterday and was taken unconscious to the Queen of Angels hospital here where she died shortly after her arrival.

HERE THEY ARE!

Salem Merchants Represented in Today's **EASTER PARADE!**

- Acklin's Bootery
- Acklin's Jr. Bootery
- Arbuckle's
- Erich of New York
- Ermel's Colonial Furniture
- The Fashionette
- Fronk's House of Carpets
- Gevurtz Furniture Co.
- Hamilton Furniture Co.
- Hutcheon Paint Co.
- Johnson's Store for Ladies
- Kay Woolen Mill Store
- Lady Fair Hat Shop
- Margwen's
- Ed Williams Card Shop
- Miller's Dept. Store
- Montgomery Ward
- J. C. Penney Co.
- Price's
- Quisenberry Pharmacies
- Roberts Bros.
- Rohland's
- The Schlesinger Co.
- Sears, Roebuck & Co.
- The Smart Shop
- Stevens & Son
- The Towne Shop
- Vacuum Cleaner Clinic
- The Vogue