

# Capital Journal

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 BERNARD MAINWARING, Editor and Publisher  
 GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor Emeritus

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**OUR LEADING FOUR FLUSHER**

In Sunday papers, Senator Joseph McCarthy with a flourish of trumpets announced that he had by-passed the Eisenhower administration by concluding an agreement with the Greek owners of 242 merchant ships to break off all trade with North Korea and Red China.

Hailing the agreement as a major blow against the Reds, McCarthy said the ship owners also have agreed "to refuse to carry cargoes of any type from one Communist port to another in any part of the world."

McCarthy said the agreement was negotiated by staff members of the Senate investigations subcommittee which he heads. He said the negotiations were carried out without the State Department or any other agency of the government being informed about what was going on.

"I didn't want any interference by anyone," he explained. However, he said he had no reason to believe the State Department would not "wholeheartedly approve" of the action.

The intimation was of course that he had done what the president and State Department had fallen down on. The U. S. Constitution provides that the conduct of foreign affairs is lodged with the president and any interference by a senatorial subcommittee is an infringement on presidential prerogative, especially since the administration has been cracking down on foreigners who bought surplus ships from the U. S. and were alleged to be trading behind the Iron Curtain.

The U. S. government has foreclosed mortgages on 21 such ships in default; and other actions were pending on many other ships in default.

The State Department now announces that the Greek government has agreed within the past 10 days to impose a ban upon the use of ships operating under the Greek flag to carry cargoes to or from Communist countries. And this was before McCarthy's announcement and independent of it, and has still to be ratified by the Greek parliament.

Mutual Security Administrator Harold E. Stassen accuses McCarthy of "undermining" administration efforts to cut off shipping to Iron Curtain nations instead of helping it, and "it could have a very major effect if you give these Greek shipowners an endorsement."

McCarthy, sore because of the defeat of his efforts to prevent the confirmation of Bohlen as ambassador to Russia, is merely thumbing his nose at President Eisenhower in another of the numerous four-flush plays typical of "McCarthyism," in his pursuit of the will-o'-the-wisp of power through the dismal swamp of vituperative demagoguery.

**THE INCOMPARABLE JIM THORPE**

Jim Thorpe, the incomparable Indian athlete, has heard his last whistle and made his last headline. He is dead at 64, a career that blossomed early to be followed by drab, discouraging decades.

America's sports writers have in recent years voted Thorpe two of the greatest honors they could vote to anyone, top athlete of the first half of the century, and greatest football player of the half century. He outdistanced Babe Ruth for the first honor and Red Grange for the second.

Thorpe played for a small school it now develops was not a college at all, only a high school, though it played such athletic greats of the day as Harvard and West Point, and beat them when Thorpe was there. His football feats are legendary. Against one Harvard team he ran the whole length of the field and in the dressing room afterward each Harvard player said he had his hands on the tricky Indian.

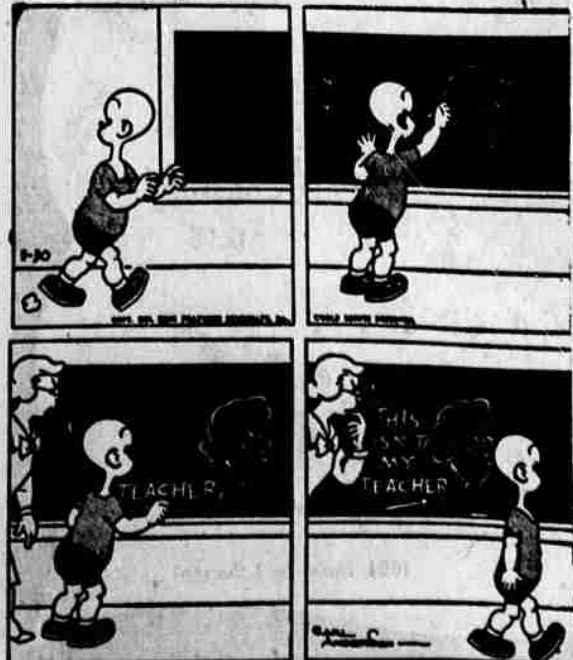
Thorpe easily won the all-around athletic championship of the world at the 1912 Olympic games, though he had done little training for the long list of track and field events. Later it was discovered that he had played baseball for \$60 a month in the Carolina league and his honors were stripped from him. However what he did was not forgotten. It couldn't be.

The great athlete was anti-climactic as a professional baseball player, though he stayed in the big leagues six years and later played pro football. When he was through in sports he was really through, for he had no trade or profession. He eked out a slim living, but his very last years were apparently relieved of the worst ills of poverty as money was raised for him two years ago when he was discovered broke and in need of an operation in Philadelphia.

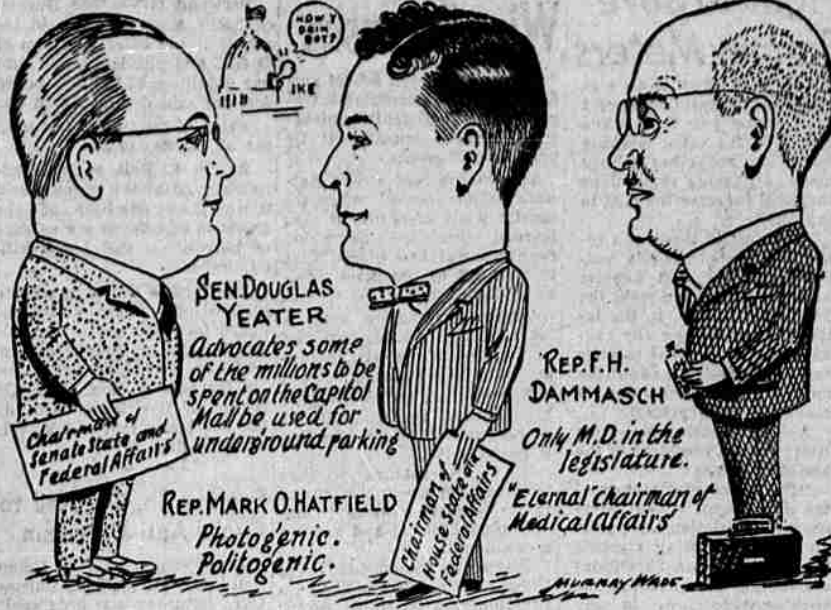
Jim Thorpe was a marvelous athlete who will never be forgotten. His career is of particular interest here where we too have an Indian school in which two of his sons have studied.

**BY CARL ANDERSON**

**Henry**



**LEGISLATORS as Seen by Murray Wade**



SEN. DOUGLAS YEATER  
 Advocates some of the millions to be spent on the Capitol. Had be used for underground parking.

REP. F. H. DAMMASCH  
 Only M.D. in the legislature. "Eternal" chairman of Medical Affairs.

REP. MARK O. HATFIELD  
 Photogenic. Politogenic.

**WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND**

**D. J. Pulling No Punches, Prosecutes G.O.P. Solon**

**BY DREW PEARSON**

Washington — The new Republican justice department has started out by not pulling any punches regarding the prosecution of Republicans, including Republican congressmen.

As a result, Congressman Ernest Bramblett, Republican, of Pacific Grove, 11th district of California, faces grand jury action on charges made by this column last fall of taking kickbacks from his office staff.

The grand jury action is being ordered by another California Republican, Warren Olney, now assistant attorney general in charge of the criminal division, who as counsel for the California crime commission did more than any other one man to clean up crime in that state. Since coming to Washington he has helped to crack down on one notorious figure in the California gambling world, Emello Georgetti, whom the Democrats did nothing about.

Olney also caused havoc in the justice department by asking the resignation of four Democrat lawyers in his criminal division who dragged their heels regarding Congressman Bramblett.

Ordinarily, justice department attorneys do not like to tangle with congressmen, let alone prosecute them. This writer supplied most of the evidence to the justice department in the case of ex-congressman Parnell Thomas of New Jersey before it prosecuted, also as part of the evidence regarding ex-congressman Andrew May of Kentucky, and published the original kickback information regarding Congressman Walter Brehm of Ohio. All were convicted.

**Bramblett's Operations**  
 In the case of Bramblett, this column reported last fall that Mrs. Margaret Swanson, listed as working on the congressman's payroll from September 1949 to January 1951 never worked in his office. She drew the top salary in his office, \$4,700, but did not work for the congressman either in Washington or in his home district in California. She is the wife of Irving B. Swanson, Republican clerk of the house of representatives and a close friend of Bramblett's.

The question arose, therefore, as to why she drew this top salary, paid her by all the taxpayers supposedly for helping Bramblett's constituents, though she did not work for them.

Another secretary, Vivian De Witt, was approached by Bramblett with an offer to boost her salary from \$3,400 to \$5,000 a year provided she would pay him \$5,000 cash in advance. She refused, and shortly thereafter left the congressman's employ.

Another secretary working for Congressman Bramblett, Mrs. Dee Bundy, was given a salary increase in January 1951 from \$2,200 to \$5,000. She denied giving any kickback, said her sudden increase was due to extra work. Her husband, incidentally, was also listed on the Bramblett payroll. Mrs. Bramblett also drew \$3,400 a year though was seldom seen around the office.

The above information was

**PICASSO FAILS TO PLEASE**

**State highway commission yesterday afternoon elected E. I. Cantine of Portland state highway engineer to succeed Major Bowly.**

Pablo Picasso is one of the great artists of the generation. In fact, nature seems to have paid so much attention to making him a great artist that he forgot to give him any sense of logic in the political field. The result is that M. Picasso, an individualist who has gone his own impetuous way in art, has enmeshed himself with a philosophy and a regime which aims at producing men without faces and human beings without individuality. Why this could be is hard to say. Why Picasso should have a tyrant in Spain and gladly accept a Russian tyrant whose butcheries are on a far vaster scale and whose tyranny is for more pervasive one just doesn't know.

But even Picasso, in spite of all his devotion to communism, can transcend the party line. He drew a memorial portrait of Joseph Stalin. It does not look much like Joseph Stalin except around the mustache, but that was the way M. Picasso felt about the subject. The picture was, he said, drawn "according to my inspiration." He added, "If my drawing does not please them it is just too bad." Now he has been rebuked, as has the editor of the French magazine in which the Stalin drawing appeared. He is definitely out of line. He is perhaps ever so slightly tainted with bourgeois deviationism.

It is thought that the Communists will not throw him out—he still can serve as window dressing. But if he really wished to test the Utopian nature of the Russian, so to speak, civilization, he should take the Stalin portrait under his arm, go to Moscow and argue it out man to man with Mr. Malenkov. When he came back, if he did come back, we suspect his communism would be of a paler cast. Perhaps it would have a touch of Titoism in it.

ity to allot funds for better highways and that 75 per cent of funds paid in gasoline and excise taxes by citizens are being diverted to usage other than highway building and maintenance.

It was partly because of Pauley's fast recovery right after election that Truman made an ambassadorial appointment that cost him plenty of headaches—Mayor William O'Dwyer of New York as ambassador to Mexico. Pauley was working on an oil concession with the Mexican government at that time, also wanted a U. S. government loan to build a Mexican government refinery. Ed Flynn, boss of the Bronx, also had interests in Mexico.

So they sold Truman on the idea of appointing O'Dwyer to this key post.

That's the inside story of how O'Dwyer went to Mexico—where he's been ever since—a story, incidentally, which the ex-president probably doesn't know even today as he vacations on Pauley's private island.

**Mailbag**  
 Karl Haritz, Andover, Mass. Re your suggestion that all motorists be assessed \$.001 for every life lost on the highway, Congressman Jack Dempsey of New Mexico recently told the American Association of State Highway Officials that, despite reckless drivers, congress has failed to assume its responsibility.

Mrs. E. A. Walker, College Park, Md.—My comment that Mrs. Fleur Cowles, wife of the Look magazine publisher, would not be welcome at the Court of St. James' was based on the long-standing tradition and custom that divorcees are not presented at court. Mrs. Cowles is a divorcee. My position on lady ambassadors was made clear when I stated, February 23, that Mrs. Hiram Houghton, an extremely able woman with a wide understanding of foreign relations, would probably lose out on a proposed appointment as ambassador to The Netherlands because of informal opposition by the Dutch to lady diplomats. This was no reflection on her. But it remains a fact that European nations, except in Scandinavia, do not welcome women as ambassadors.

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**Salem 38 Years Ago**  
**BY BEN MAXWELL**

March 30, 1915  
 Drager Fruit company's plant at the corner of Trade and Cottage streets was destroyed by fire last night entailing a loss of \$40,000. In addition to machinery the plant contained 200 tons of prunes, 10,000 pounds of dried loganberries, 12,000 bushels of potatoes and 12,000 empty sacks.

Frank Meredith, secretary of the state fair board, has resigned and his place will be taken by W. Al Jones of Joseph, a member of the fair board who resigned to become secretary at a salary of \$2000 a year.

That women are both morally and constitutionally barred from engaging in the saloon traffic or frequenting places where liquor is dispensed to males, from the very nature of things if not by the laws of mankind, is the unqualified opinion of the supreme court of Oregon as expressed in an opinion today written by Justice Eakin.

State highway commission yesterday afternoon elected E. I. Cantine of Portland state highway engineer to succeed Major Bowly.

Salem was yesterday hit by an invasion of beggars and five were collected by the police and brought to the station to tell their troubles to Judge Elgin. Each was sentenced to five days of hard labor.

Salem's entire fire department responded to an alarm turned in from the Owl rooming house, corner of Ferry and Commercial streets, this morning and wrecked the hose cart in their hurry to reach a fire that did not exist. Following the automobile pumper the fire team and hose wagon was unable to negotiate the turn at the corner of Chemeketa and Commercial streets and the hose cart piled up in the office of the Salem, Falls City & Western Lumber company. The team was not hurt but the hose cart will require a thorough overhaul before it can respond to another alarm.

A caterpillar traction engine pulling six plows attracted considerable attention on Front street this morning. It is the property of L. H. McMahon who uses the machine for cultivating his 500-acre orchard, 125 acres of grain and 52 acres of hops. There are but four other of these big traction engines in the country. (Mr. McMahon, 891 N. Front street, says this gas tractor weighed 10 tons, cost near \$5000 and was a very capable machine.)

**A LEGAL SCANDAL**  
**(Medford Mail-Tribune)**

Oregon's "habitual criminal" law needs revision and amendment. As now constructed, and too often interpreted, it leads to scandalous abuses and inexcusable injustices.

The recent case of Joe Poggil of Oregon City is a good example.

Here was an illiterate, friendly "skid-row" candidate, whose fourth offense was to pick up some scrap-lead from a paper mill dump valued at \$2.50.

The policeman who made the arrest was surprised to learn later that the charge instead of being petit larceny, was robbery—a felony—and this branded "No-good" Joe, aged 32 years, an habitual and incurable criminal, promptly sentenced to spend the rest of his life in the penitentiary!

Not until he had served there 25 years was any real effort made to secure his release.

Such belated action is now being considered.

The law as we know it is all wrong, as it is now written. Only the general high quality of Oregon's judiciary and our law-enforcement officers, has prevented a major scandal of such proportions that all right thinking citizens of the state would be up in arms against it.

It should be radically amended, if not repealed.

**BY BECK**  
**Actions You Regret**



THE SHOW-UPS WHO CAN'T RESIST THE TEMPTATION OF A READY-MADE ALIBI... THAT'S WAITING FOR A PARADE—

**POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER**

**Today's Top Athlete Is Business Man, Hal Finds**

**BY HAL BOYLE**

Wilmington, N. C., (AP)—The tramp athlete is passing out of the sports picture.

The top professional athletes today often have business brains as well as muscle, and when old Father Time finally forces them out of competition they can retire gracefully with a nice nest egg to start a fresh career.

Typical of these new businessmen-athletes is Otto Graham, 31-year old star quarterback of the Cleveland Browns football team, who is vacationing here with his pretty wife, Beverly.

Passing touchdowns passes is Otto's specialty—he has thrown more than 100 in his seven-year career as a professional football player.

**OPEN FORUM**

**Thinks Sheep Will Desecrate Cemetery**

To the Editor: Will the county court and Salem city administration cooperate in an novel plan to clean up the I.O.O.F. cemetery?

Will they desecrate the last resting place of Salem's pioneer fathers and mothers by pasturing with sheep?

The condition of the cemetery is a disgrace, but would it not be better to let it remain as it is than to broadcast to the world this barbaric method of beautifying it? Surely there must be a better solution to the problem.

HOWARD A. DOAK

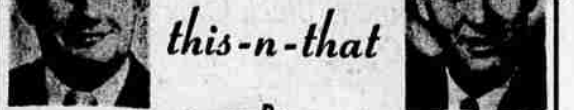
**Identify 450 Pound Skull as Mastodon**

Portland (AP) A fossil found 12 years ago near Unity in Eastern Oregon has been identified as the skull of a predecessor of ice-age mastodons.

Alonzo W. Hancock, who found the skull, said the identification was made recently by Dr. George Gaylord Simpson, of the American Museum of Natural History. He said the 450-pound skull was from a Miomastodon Merriama which lived 12 to 20 million years ago in the Miocene period.

The sport has given him a fine living, enabled him and Beverly to "start a family of three kids" and provided him a stepping stone to a successful business career.

"I've got a lot to be grateful for," said Otto.



**GEORGE HUGGINS —By— SID BOISE**

We often hear it said that "Auto insurance costs so much more than it used to." Well, for those of us with a long memory we'll have to agree that we spend more dollars for auto insurance today than we did in 1941, for example, but let's pursue the subject just a little further.

In 1941 a certain "popular model car" sold new for \$1100. The cost of Public Liability, Property Damage, Comprehensive, Fire and Theft, and \$50 deductible collision was \$58.76 per year, or \$5.34 per \$100 of valuation. Today, the same car sells new for \$2650. The cost of the same type of insurance is now \$103.00, or a cost per \$100 valuation of \$3.89. The rate now is \$1.45 less per \$100 of insurance than it was in 1941!

The fire insurance rate in Salem hasn't changed (except to decrease slightly) for many years, but the value of your property has increased considerably so most of us carry more insurance than we did a few years ago. So before we judge the auto insurance industry too harshly, let's remember that the RATE for auto insurance is LESS than it was a few years ago, and what has actually happened is that YOU ARE BUYING MORE INSURANCE.

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 Monday, Mar. 30

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