$\frac{\text { mif: }}{\text { Capital 甹 Journal }}$ An independent Newspaper-Established 1888
BERNARD MAINWARING, Editor and Publisher
GEORGE PUTNAM Edito GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor Emeritus Published every afternoon except Sunday of 444 Che-
meketa St,, Salem. Phones: Business, Newsroom, Wantmeketa St., Salem. Phones: Business, Newsroom, Want-
Ads, 2-2406; Society Editor, 2-2409.
 SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

PORTLAND HOG ROOTS AGAIN The Portland legisiative hog is at it again in its per-
sistent and continued effort to move the state capitol
from Salem and state institutions from Marion county by from Salem and state institutions from Marion county by
repeal of the constitutional provisions passed by the people, unless the voters decide otherwise. Tuesday the house of representatives voted 43 to 13
for a resolution sponsored by Rep. F. R. Dammasch of for a resolution sponsored by Rep. F. R. Dammasch of
Portland, who has long opposed the present restriction,
which the majority of the committee recommended rewhich Is it gets past the senate in the waning days of the
session, the resolution will be sumbitted to the Oregon
electorate at the November, 1954, general election. Should
it be approved by the voters, institutions no longer will
te it be approved by the voters, institutions no longer will
be confined to the vicinity of Salem, but may be built
anywhere the legislature and the board of control feel is proper.
Multnomah with its huge log rolling delegation domi-
nates the house and each session sees persistent efforts nates the house and each session sees persistent efforts
to erect state institutions in Portland. The voters of
Oregon it was to the advantage of the state elsewhere than in
Marion county, such as hospitals, educational institutions and office structures, and they are scattered over Oregon.
But the house majority would deprive the But the house majority would deprive the people of a
voice in the expenditure of their money on sites etsewhere. The fight against the Dammasch bill was led by Rep.
Mark 0 . Hatfield, committee chairman, and Jee Ohmart,
both from Salem and becked by others of the Mor both from Salem and backed by others of the Marion dele-
gation. They argued that in the interest of economy and efficiency institutions ought to be geographically close
Salem, where the board of control meets, stressed
advantages of group service and close supervision. Portland has its share of state buildings and depart-
ment offices but will not be satisfied with its slogan of more! more! But the legislature has too much power
now in that it can give away state property without recourse, but seeks to supercede the people entirely.


THE BUREAU OF STANDARDS FUSS To Sinclair Weeks, secretary of commerce, goes what-
ever credit there may be in kicking up one of the biggest
fusses in Washingto fusses in Washington. He has discharged Dre Allen V.
Astin, director of the highly respected bureau of standards.
Reason given for the puster is that the bureau returned
an adverse report on a battery whose qualities it was an adverse report on a battery whose qualities it was
asked to ivestigate. The senate small business commit-
tee received a complaint from the makers of the battery, asked the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to investigate and got a report that contradicted the govern-
ment finding in part. Nobody yet knows for sure who
is right. But Weeks decided the case against Dr. Astin and
ousted him summarily, He also made ousted him summarily. He also made charges that some
of the key men in the burau were too close socially to
some of those whose products they investigate. Now 50 employes of the bureau are threatening to
resign in a body and scientists outside the government, who have always had the highest regard for this bureau,
are incensed, too. So Weeks finds himself in the center
of a small tornado Here is something the appropriate committee of con
gress ought to look into gress ought to look into. Specifically it ought to hear
from Dr. Astin and others who have been accused. And
it ought to hear their testimony at an open meeting with the press of the nation present.
The integrity of a government bureau upon whose find-
ings people buy thousands of articles whose qualities Ings people buy thousands of articles whose qualities
they cannot personally know must be sustained. And
the reputations of those in it must be protected from unjust attack. The issue raised by Weeks cannot be ignored.
The facts must be ascertained and made known.

## THEY STILL 'LIKE IKE

| cted in congress Tuesday in the first sp fill a vacancy since the November election. |  |
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## WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

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