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STILL ANOTHER VIEW OF THE CITY MANAGER ISSUE

By BERNARD MAINWARING

Yesterday Charles A. Sprague in the Statesman and George Putnam in the Capital Journal expressed themselves with their usual vigor and sureness on the relations between the mayor and council on the one hand and the city manager on the other.

Today this writer adds his two bits worth and actually it is scarcely more than that, for his residence in Salem is still of less than three and a half months duration. His knowledge of the key figures is limited and brief; some of the council he does not know at all.

But municipal and other public issues are not new to him, and if he is new to Salem he is at least free from prejudices engendered by past political controversies.

Yesterday he and Steve Stone, the veteran city editor of the Capital Journal, interviewed Mayor Loucks upon this matter, questioned him closely, noting carefully his attitude as well as his answers.

The attitude of the mayor and those of the council who agree with him, which appears to be most if not all, is one of complete confidence in the integrity, diligence and professional competence of the city manager. This was expressed with vigor and indeed with enthusiasm by the mayor.

The complaint of the elected employees of the city about the manager has to do solely with other phases of his duties, his alleged failure to control some of the city departments, and to get numerous little chores done, to the embarrassment and harassment of the councilmen.

We suspect now that this complaint has been laid before the entire public, the manager, if he has been negligent, will bend every effort to meet the criticism. To what extent it is justified this writer has not been here long enough to know. The average Capital Journal reader will be in a better position to appraise it from his own experience with city departments. We were impressed with the evident sincerity of the mayor in voicing it, and in his entire lack of malice.

There is evidently another issue of policy between the mayor and councilmen and the city manager. The elected group apparently believes it should take a more active part in framing city policy through committees of its own members and committees of citizens than does the city manager. We say "apparently" because the city manager has not as yet made clear his own attitude. Here is a basic difference of view on the extent to which the city manager should manage.

This writer never lived in a city manager town before coming to Salem and does not know which view is right or which represents general practice under the manager plan, which the mayor says he and the council support fully. But he has always understood that policy making is in the hands of the people's elected representatives under the manager setup.

Here, we believe, is what this headline making "situation" is about. We are not prepared to offer an opinion as to who is right, and we doubt if anyone knows for sure. But we think a recital of the basic issues will suggest that they are ones upon which good, sincere men, such as we fully believe the mayor, the council and the manager to be, can differ.

We do suggest that the present city manager has on the whole done an outstanding job for Salem, this based upon what most everybody appears to believe, and should be treated with the greatest courtesy and consideration by the mayor, the council and the public. And in justice to the mayor and the council it should be pointed out that it was not they who dragged the matter before the public while they were in apparent good faith trying to find an equitable solution to what they viewed as a serious problem.

There is absolutely nothing to do at an airport except take off your shirt and contemplate your navel, and if you do that they arrest you. A man who can invent something you can do while waiting at an airport—anything at all—is sure of a niche in the hall of fame.

The least they could do is put a widow's walk on the roof, so a passenger could pace back and forth and scan the skies, waiting for his ship to come in.

My theory is that the air age has brought America to the crossroads. Sooner or later we are going to have to choose between living at airports or in cities. The prospect of commercial jet plane travel will probably force a solution. The jets require airports so distant from any settled place it will no longer be practical to make the journey from airport to city.

Since the big aluminum sky birds can't adjust themselves to man, I think man might as well start adjusting himself to them. It is high time we started gradually deserting our out-of-date cities, and began building new temples of culture around our airports. What good does it do to zip through



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

'Hurry Up and Wait' Is Airplane Traveler's Fate

By HAL BOYLE

At a Midwest Airport (#7)—A man who travels regularly by air today no longer lives at home. He spends most of his life at airports.

The slogan of the air age is the same as the Army's: "Hurry up and wait."

A fellow might just as well divorce his wife and marry an airplane. You don't have time in one life to wait for both of them to get ready.

The airplane is an instrument of hurry which is supposed to get you from city to city. It doesn't do that at all. It gets you from one reformed cow pasture to another. Then you sit down and wait for your baggage, which supposedly is in the belly of the plane but actually follows by oxcart.

Then, when you and your suit case are reunited, you borrow a compass and set out for your real destination—the city.

All airports are waypoints in futility. They all look exactly alike and have one thing in common—no matter which direction you go from any of them you are bound to get closer to civilization.

The typical airport has a soft-drink machine which is empty, and a pinball machine that is broken but will accept your coin anyway. It has a few hard oak benches, a newsstand with yesterday's papers, and a luncheon stocked with tidbits left over from the Spanish-American War.

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OPEN FORUM

Sheep in Cemetery Poor Ad for Salem

To the Editor: Sheep in the cemetery, walking over the graves of the dead.

This is a poor advertisement for Salem with all the people passing this cemetery on the highway. It looks like there ought to be some other method of cleaning it up.

R. MARTIN, Salem, Ore.

Faculty Monopolize 'Ugliest Man' Event

Berkeley, Calif. (AP)—Twenty entrants filed their names in a contest at the University of California to determine "the Ugliest Man on the Campus."

In the early polling, the leading seven contenders were all faculty members.

There are 876 historical markers along North Carolina's highways.

Anti-Red Thailand Now Menaced by Laos Attack

By PHIL NEWSOM

Of all the Southeast Asia nations Thailand is the most outspokenly anti-Communist.

She has troops fighting alongside those of other United Nations in Korea. Her premier and minister of defense, Field Marshal Pibul Songgram refers contemptuously to the official Communist publication Pravda as "Bluffda."

In a matter of two weeks, Communist invaders of the little Indo-Chinese kingdom of Laos overran a third of the country and pushed to within 25 miles of the Thailand frontier on the Mekong river.

Not Much Defense

It illustrated the pitiful state of Southeast Asia defenses.

Now if, as the French say, the Communist invaders of Laos are on the retreat, it must be due to the imminence of the rainy season rather than to any opposition the Reds met.

Nor will it be any permanent salvation.

Like some other Communist actions in the past, the invasion of Laos seemed contradictory.

It began in the midst of the Russian "peace offensive" and at a time when Chinese and North Korean Communists and the United Nations were resuming Korean truce talks after an eight-months' delay.

A Little Mixed Up

It seemed as if the Chinese Reds might either have gotten their signals mixed or deliberately had double-crossed their Soviet partners.

But it served to remind Western nations of something that military leaders have known

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Reds Win Power in British Colony Near Panama Canal

BY DREW PEARSON

Washington — While most of the nation has been worried about Indo-China, Korea and Europe, the state department has been exchanging frantic cables with the British foreign office over the surge of communism in the Caribbean—just across from the Panama Canal.

Both American and British authorities were stunned by the communist sweep in British Guiana's recent elections. The Reds, parading under the banner of the Peoples' Progressive Party, won 18 out of 24 seats in the house of assembly.

This means the communists are in complete control of the legislature and will have a major voice in running this British crown colony.

The only way to prevent communist control would be to take away the peoples' new political independence and restore the full authoritarian power of the British governor. However, the British fear this would boomerang and drive even more natives into communist arms.

What worries officials even more, is that communism may be spreading throughout the British West Indies, threatening the vital American life line through the Panama Canal. The United States is now maintaining an air base in British Guiana itself, though the base has been reduced to house-keeping status.

The man responsible for the Red coup in British Guiana is Cheddi Jagan, a tough, ruthless communist agent who studied dentistry in the United States but got his political training behind the iron curtain. He is now Red boss of the house of assembly, which means that Moscow, in effect, is giving orders to a British colonial legislature.

Jagan was able to inflame and dupe the natives with the help of his American wife who stumped the countryside in a native sari.

Meanwhile, British and American diplomats are still at a loss as to what to do about this grave, new communist threat in our own backyard.

DANGEROUS DEFENSE CUTS

You can write it down as certain that the democrats will split seriously with Eisenhower for the first time over his drastically reduced defense budget. The issue will be drawn on the argument that Ike is endangering national safety.

Here are some of the facts which are sure to come up during public debate and backstage huddles over defense reduction:

1. The Soviet, despite talk about peace, hasn't reduced its defense by one plugged ruble.
2. A little over a year ago, Eisenhower himself, then NATO commander, was calling for 120 European divisions. Now we're settling for something over 50.
3. Though Ike is allegedly relying on "push-button war," actually he has cut the air force more drastically than any other branch of the armed services. And the air force is the chief means of waging push-button war.

Careful analysis of the Eisenhower budget cuts shows

Salem 19 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL
May 12, 1934

Money taken from the city's share of the county dog license fund is being used to finance a trip to Washington by John W. Cunningham, engineer, who will represent the city in its negotiation with the public works administration for a municipal water works loan.

Various Santiam highway construction projects on the eastern rim of Linn county now employ 200 men.

A net of 3/4c a pound for Royal Anne cherries was paid to growers delivering to Willamette Cherry Growers, Inc. according to an announcement just made covering last year's crop.

Flea, beetles, two species of which are now found in Oregon, constitute a serious menace to potato production in this state.

A group of professional and business men and women met Thursday evening to organize a "Holman for Governor" club. Officers are: Hal D. Patton, W. W. Rosebraugh, Miss Golda Wheeler, Miss Eula McCully, Mrs. Ellison, Henry W. Meyers and Joseph Roman.

Butteville school district will build a new, two story schoolhouse on the site of an older structure built 40 years ago.

State officials of the Fraternal Order of Eagles held a meeting in Silverton Thursday and reorganized the order in that area.

New rails weighing 112 pounds to the yard are being laid between Hubbard and Aurora to replace old, 90 pound steel put down in 1910.

Labor unions will be a thing of the past in 25 to 50 years says Dr. Robert Montgomery, one of the South's foremost economists, in defending the New Deal philosophy of President Roosevelt.

George Bennett will return to the local wrestling arena next Tuesday when he meets Robt Reed in a final event of the evening's program.

WE HAVE IT TOO

(Astorian - Budget)

Any time we northerners are inclined to point scornfully at the south for its treatment of Negroes, let us recall such incidents as the burning of a cross in the lawn of a Portland Negro family—only one of many such incidents in Portland and other northern cities where Negroes live in substantial numbers.

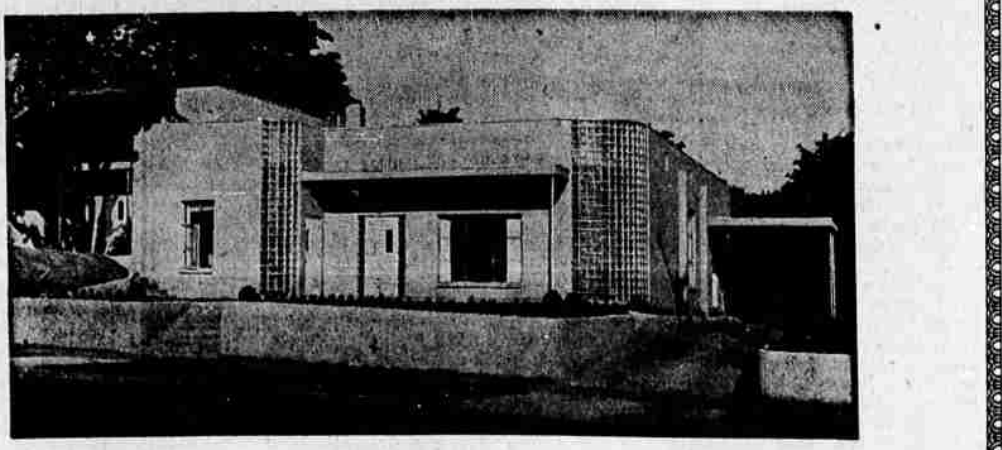
The Negro runs into just as much prejudice, intolerance and segregation in the north as he does in the south—sometimes more.

The Portland family which had the cross burned in its lawn had committed no other offense than to move into a neighborhood exclusively white.

It has been subjected to harassment of several kinds, but has decided to insist on its right to live where it wants. Most people, except those in the affected neighborhood, will hope the Negroes win the argument.

F-84-F's, one of the hottest planes in the air force, General Motors is considerably behind schedule.

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"Transfer of executive responsibility for a unified, multi-service command from one of the joint chiefs (e.g., Korea under Army General J. Lawton Collins, Alaska under Air Force General Hoyt Vandenberg) to a civilian service secretary. Result: more civilian control and a further confinement of the joint chiefs to their role of 'military advisers.'"

"Affirmation of the authority of the secretary of defense to delegate his functions as he sees fit, to insure flexible administration, capable of decentralization."