

# Capital Journal

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## NATURAL GAS COMING

Salem Chamber of Commerce members witnessed an interesting program on the advantages of natural gas at their weekly meeting Monday, particularly the natural gas the West Coast Transmission company hopes to pipe in from the Peace River country in Alberta.

The gas would come in a long pipeline extended from what are believed to be the greatest gas fields in the world, whose proven supply already runs up into the trillions, with more being added by new explorations. The line would run to Vancouver, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland and on to Salem, with branches to Spokane and Richland. It would be distributed here and in Portland by the Portland Gas and Coke company.

Natural gas is cheaper than the manufactured gas the area has now. This would presumably lead to its much wider use for heating in homes and for industry. Since many industries require great quantities of cheap, clean heat a large scale industrial expansion is seen when natural gas becomes available.

However, there's competition for the honor—and profit—of serving this great region with natural gas. The Pacific Northwest Pipelines corporation wishes to supply us with gas from the San Juan basin which is located in New Mexico and Colorado. It would come in via southern Idaho and eastern Oregon.

The Federal Power commission will consider and act on the applications. As previously stated, the Portland Gas and Coke company favors the Canadians, as does the Oregon Journal, which expresses the belief that Canadian gas will be cheaper and that it will not have to be shared with California as gas from the U. S. Southwest presumably will.

There is, however, another angle. Canada is after all a foreign country which might some time have a government unfriendly to the United States, particularly in Alberta province, now governed by a Social Credit party, now grown prosperous and capitalistic, but once wilder than a March hare and plenty radical. Should a radical move recur in western Canada we might some day find our supply cut off on one pretext or another.

How important this possibility is we do not know, but it certainly exists and ought to be considered by the commission. Price and capacity to build the line promptly are also important items to consider. Natural gas looks like another piece of good fortune for a region already enjoying more than its share of this fickle dame's favors.

## FIGHT IN AIRFORCE ECONOMIES

A major fight is underway against the Eisenhower administration, principally for cuts made in airforce expenditures and other economies, yet the president is merely carrying out campaign promises for economy in government and he knows the military situation better than anyone else and is better qualified than critics to know what is necessary for defense.

The bitter attacks of loudmouthed democrats and billious leftist columnists calling for the resignation of Secretary of Defense Wilson, and the demands of airforce partisans are just cheap politics designed to prejudice a public that has full confidence in middle-of-the-road policies of the president as well as his military judgment.

In his announcement of fiscal policies made a week ago, the president asked \$11,669,000 for the airforce and a goal of 120 wings in mid-1955, a reduction of \$5 billion from the amount President Truman had asked with a goal of 143 wings by mid-1955. As Mr. Eisenhower stated the airforce will not be limited to \$11.6 billion in fiscal 1954 as it will have over \$40 billion available in unspent appropriations, and more than 40 per cent of all the defense funds allotted for 1954. Naval airforce in addition will have the funds allotted the navy. The president said:

"This means that almost 60 cents out of every dollar to be available for national defense in the next year will be devoted to air power and air defense. Security cannot arbitrarily be defined as the simple equivalent of a specific number of aircraft or air wings."

"Today, three aircraft with modern weapons can practically duplicate the destructive power of all the 3700 planes we unleashed in the great break-out attack from the Normandy beachhead. . . Security is planned, not blindly bought. It is the product of thought, and work, and our ability and readiness to bear our military burden for however long the threat to freedom exists.—G. F.

## WE LOSE AN INDUSTRY

Salem thinks in terms of gaining industries, just as a champion athlete thinks in terms of the hits he is going to make or the blows he is going to land on his adversary.

But there are retreats as well as advances in the life of a growing community, though happily few and of brief duration here. One such is the announcement yesterday of the closing of the Sick brewery.

Reason given is that expansion of the company's plants in Seattle and Spokane will slack all customer thirsts in the Northwest with greater profit to the company, which will have only two instead of three plant overheads to carry. So most of a 70 job operation will fold up for Salem, offsetting for a time at least the gain we all anticipate from the reopening of the aluminum plant under Harvey ownership.

It is significant that Sick's are moving against the general trend, which is decentralization of industry, more plants, particularly in smaller cities where living conditions and employ relations are usually better.

It is hoped that some productive use can be found for the personnel and the building, whose large, well located floor space should not long remain idle.

## SHAME ON THE WEATHER MAN!

Albany Democrat Herald  
It's a pity our ordinarily docile Oregon weather had to act up so shamelessly just when the state baseball championship was to be played in our town. Fortunately, nobody is attributing the cancellation of the tournament to any Albany cussedness. The same thing was going on all over the state, and there wasn't a dependably dry spot where the contests could have been transferred with any assurance of playable conditions.

Because our weather is usually so pleasant and convenient we'll overlook this lapse. But for next year we insist on something different. Cancellation was a tough break for the leading teams. A good many seniors thereby missed their last chance to participate in a title race. The law of averages ought to assure them something better when the state's best prep diamond stars come to Albany for the 1954 championship games.

In Sweden, livestock feed is manufactured from wood.

## "REDS TO REWRITE FAIRY CLASSICS (NEWS ITEMS)



## WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

### President Worried About Cabinet; McKay Looks Good

BY DREW PEARSON

Washington—The president is becoming increasingly moody over the shortcomings of certain cabinet members. Here is the general line-up of how the cabinet rates with Ike.

He takes an increasingly dim view of Secretary of State Dulles.

Secretary of Defense Wilson annoys him.

Secretary of Agriculture Benson is liked, but the president has begun to realize that the farmers don't.

Secretary of Labor Durkin seems to make no impression on the president, is regarded as a necessary evil.

Secretary of Interior McKay has left the president pretty much alone, knows how to get things done without ruffling White House waters.

Attorney General Brownell and Postmaster General Summerfield rank high, somewhere behind Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey.

Ike is concerned about the health of his legislative liaison expert Gen. Wilton B. Persons. Persons is a No. 1 advocate of compromise with Ike's enemies in congress. This policy now shows signs of failure, and Persons' health may force him to withdraw from the job.

Ike has also lost some of his enthusiasm for his chief of staff, former Gov. Sherman Adams of New Hampshire. Adams has his eye on Sen. Styles Bridges' seat which is up for grabs next year, and this could be Adams' cue to bow out of the White House.

What Ike is hunting for are more people with a global view, including a White House Chief of Staff with more international experience.

**RED POTASH IN U.S.**  
It's been kept undercover, but the communists are dumping potash in the U.S.A. at cut-rate prices.

American producers claim this is an attempt to close down our domestic mines, so we will be caught short of potash in case of an emergency. They point out that potash is high on the strategic list, since farmers must have it for fertilizer.

This column has been able to trace the flow of communist potash back to an East Berlin firm, called Dia, run by German front men but strictly controlled by the Russians. Their source of supply is the East German potash mines in the communist zone.

Three American firms have been quietly doing business with Dia and peddling the communist potash on the American potash market at knock-down prices. They are: Woodward and Dickerson of Philadelphia; General Fertilizer and H. J. Baker, both of New York.

However, Herbert Rauchfuss of Woodward and Dickerson explained to this column that he not only had the state department's permission to trade in East German potash but had actually been encouraged to keep the lines of trade open behind the iron curtain. He claimed that his company had been bartering third-rate tobacco for the potash. Thus, the west has been getting strategic potash in return for poor-

can Federation of Labor got busy. An A.F. of L. legislative scout, George Riley, called on Tuck to find out if the Virginian's anti-labor views had changed any. They hadn't. Tuck was blunt and forthright in stating: "I'm going to vote against you nine out of ten times, and probably on the tenth."

Riley and another A.F. of L. legislative adviser, Andrew Biemiller, promptly told democratic minority leader Sam Rayburn what happened.

"This man wears the golden collar of big business," Biemiller protested, "as I recently stated before the State Federation of Labor in his own state of Virginia. American labor won't take his appointment lying down."

Meantime, five house Ways and Means democrats—Forand of Rhode Island, King of California, Dingell of Michigan, Eberhardt of Pennsylvania and O'Brien of Illinois—were all set to vote against Tuck.

Since the Virginian needed a majority of six of the ten Ways and Means democrats to cinch his appointment, this meant his goose was cooked.

Rayburn, who was for Tuck in the beginning, changed his mind. Tuck took a less-desired assignment on the Post Office and Civil Service committee, where he is expected to do a conscientious job.

Excavators have discovered a clay tablet with a little dancing figure scratched on its in a 3,000-year-old Greek business house, and the National Geographic Society suggests the figure may be the world's first doodle.

Having earned a reputation for "keeping labor in line" while governor of Virginia, Tuck decided that his logical niche in congress was on the labor and education committee.

Committee assignments for freshman democrats are made by democratic members of the Ways and Means committee, but the hard-working Virginian didn't wait for this formality. With the backing of potent Sen. Harry Byrd of Virginia, who interceded with house leaders, Tuck assumed this appointment was secure and dispatched a clerk over to the senate labor committee to get him some data on "right to work" (anti union shop) laws, which he had promoted as governor of Virginia. Tuck also hinted at a public luncheon that he would soon be open to suggestions as a member of the committee.

Hearing of this, the Ameri-

## POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

### London Kids No Longer Say 'Got Any Gum, Chum?'

By HAL BOYLE

London (P)—An open letter to any ex-GI from the London he used to know:

Dear Joe, I came over here to see the Queen get her crown, and I've been here three whole days, and not one little kid has said, "Got any gum, chum?" I tell you, it gives you a lonesome feeling.

The old town sure has changed from wartime days when a guy in an American uniform with a carton of cigarettes under his arm could walk the streets and feel like a king.

Remember how beat-up and battered London looked then? Well, now she looks like some old family aunt who has come into a little money, got her face lifted, put on a new paint job, bought herself some glad rags—and started looking for a boy friend. It's fun to see the old girl smiling and having a good time, after all the years of tears.

The British are going about this coronation the same way they fight a war or make tea—methodically and thoroughly. They will do the job right, even if the Queen becomes eligible for an old age pension before she finally gets her crown.

You know how fast we throw up some wooden stands in America for some local festival, such as running the mayor out of town. Well, the coronation stands look like they had been built for the ages. They are held up by miles of metal piping, and the English have taken as much care in building them as the French did with the Eiffel Tower.

I checked the wooden seats, too, Joe, and they are so smooth that if any visitor gets a splinter in his you-know-where, well—it'll be such a scandal some poor carpenter will probably be drummed out of the empire.

Until now the British have taken the coronation festival in stride. A few diehards have even been heard to growl in their beer, "It's all ruddy nonsense."

But now they are getting into the spirit of the thing. It's

been a real vitamin shot for the British people, and they are quite excited. Of course, Joe, you know they aren't like us. We are proud of our country out loud, and they are proud of their empire in silence. You really need a slow motion camera to catch a bud opening or an Englishman showing an emotion of any kind.

I guess it's hard to say which has really stirred them up more—the coronation or the strain of three days of perfect weather. They are looking up in the history books to see if they ever had three straight days of sunshine before, and the unseasonable probably will remain until the next fog arrives.

But Joe, you should be here now. I got news for you. Brussels sprouts are out of season. In the restaurants they ask you if you wouldn't like some fresh strawberries. How do you like that, Joe? Strawberries instead of Brussels sprouts. You came here ten years too soon, kid. But that boiled potato you left behind you is still on the menu, ten years soggy.

Remember how we used to wear an arm out in a block saluting the top brass out at Eisenhower plaza, where General Ike had his headquarters? Well, I went out there in a cab and drove around the square for old times' sake, and the yellow house fronts were freshly painted, and I didn't see a single American uniform, not even one tired old abandoned colonel.

Boy, that gave me an eerie feeling. But if they finally got all those colonels out of town, swivel chairs and all, I guess the war must really be over and what we are having is peace.

### WEATHER NOTE

London (P)—Diana Maugham, whose uncle, Somerset Maugham, authored the stage hit "Rain," has a play opening here Tuesday night. Title of Miss Maugham's play: "Snow."

Hives of bees often have many workers assigned to carry water into the hive.

## Salem 30 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

May 26, 1923  
Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Clough, residents of Salem for 47 years, celebrated their golden wedding last evening.

A deal transferring over five acres at 14th and B streets and along Southern Pacific tracks to Oregon Growers Cooperative association as a site for cannery and packing house usages has finally been closed. A prune packing plant may be constructed there this summer.

Since March 3, not less than 20 prisoners have escaped from the penitentiary despite Governor Pierce's instructions to Warden Smith to keep inmates from roaming promiscuously over the state at their pleasure.

Bert S. Haney of Oregon was today appointed a member of the shipping board by President Harding.

Sam Hill of Abiqua Heights

school district above Scott Mills is district clerk. He is also a worried man. Though the district has a fine schoolhouse and modern there are now neither pupils nor a patrol living in the district except Sam who happens to be a bachelor. Sam is wondering what to do about the school since the lumber company vacated the locality and all the inhabitants except for himself have moved away.

Carleton K. Logan, University of Oregon graduate in journalism and for the past nine months managing editor of the Ashland Glad Tidings will leave that paper on Saturday to become telegraph editor for a Salem newspaper.

Chevrolet, "World's Lowest Priced Automobile." Five passenger touring car delivered to your door in Salem \$663. (Remember the year, 1923, not 1953).

## OPEN FORUM

### Deaf Assn. Assails Trading on Affliction

To the Editor:

It has been brought to the attention of the writers, and members of the Salem Chapter of the Oregon Association of the Deaf that certain out-of-state deaf persons have come into the community to peddle cheap trinkets. This is out and out begging because, stressing their deafness, they are demanding donations that are far in excess of the true value of the articles offered for "sale."

The deaf people of Salem are proud of their record as hard-working and respectable citizens. They pay taxes, spend their money in town, obey the laws and have the respect of their neighbors. They are home owners, citizens contributing to and sharing in the benefits of the city.

These peddlers, or beggars in disguise, hand out cheap articles and, with the plea that deafness prevents their finding suitable employment, ask people to donate sums far in excess of the real worth of the trinket to be "sold." The deaf people of Salem are proud of this argument is false. The deaf can and do find gainful employment. These beggars have been offered legitimate work but it has always been refused because they earn more, and much more easily by begging.

The City of Salem requires peddlers to have a license. Ask to see this Salem license before money is handed out. Should the peddler be without the license, please notify the police at once, giving them a description of the "seller."

The deaf people of Salem do not want these peddlers in town; they want to stop this nefarious practice of soliciting under the guise of selling. This activity can be stamped out if the citizens of Salem will discontinue giving money to these panhandlers.

Buy your articles from local merchants. Keep your money in town. If you have money to give to charity, give it to the local Community Chest or to the Red Cross Blood Bank Fund.

OLAF TOLLEFSON  
THOMAS ULMER.

### TIME FOR DISCRETION

Los Angeles Times  
Prime Minister Churchill recently urged British Laborites to stop nagging in public about the way in which the United States is conducting the Panmunjom truce talks and, in so doing, pointed up a moral which, we believe, has application on both sides of the Atlantic. The right to criticize publicly must be tempered with judgment as to whether good or harm will result. It would be hard to quarrel with this as a present counsel both for members of Parliament and members of Congress.

The estimated average cost of drilling an oil well in the United States is \$45,000.

SEE  
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