

# Capital Journal

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## 'CHAMPION' GATE CRASHER

There are all sorts of ways of winning notoriety if not enduring fame, but James Leo (One-Eyed) Connelly, who died just before Christmas at a rest home at Zion, Ill., at the age of 84, secured national renown as the world's champion gate crasher. Perhaps it was because there are gate crashers in every community in the land but few make a profession of it or get away with it long. Hence Connelly evoked the envy and admiration of a numerous clan.

For a half century, Mr. Connelly carried on a personal crusade to outwit the gamblers at sporting events and political conventions. He succeeded by posing as a vendor, iceman, carpenter, or anything else that struck his fancy. By his own count, he had crossed the United States 102 times on gate-crashing forays and also had invaded Europe and Australia.

Perhaps Connelly also successfully crashed the ocean liners, railroads and bus lines, for while gate crashing is a money saver, it is not a money maker, and how else could he travel first class for 50 years?

Connelly lost the sight of his left eye in a boxing ring accident when 18 years old, and boasted that he had crashed all heavyweight championship fights since 1897 except three he did not care to see. In a newspaper interview, he once said:

"It started with the James J. Corbett-Bob Fitzsimmons match in Carson City, Nev. I told the gatekeepers I had overheard two thugs plotting in town to rob the counting room. I was invited through the gates to keep watch for them."

"At the Jack Dempsey-Georges Carpentier bout in 1921 at Boyle's Thirty Acres in Jersey City I was tossed out of 13 of the 15 entrances, but went through the 14th. I borrowed a pail of coffee and a basket of sandwiches from the telegraph crew and the gatekeeper thought I was a vendor."

"At the Dempsey-Tom Gibbons fight in 1923 in Shelby, Mont., I posed as an iceman and carried 80 pounds of ice through the door for the coolers."

It was not only prize fights that Connelly crashed, but national political conventions as well. He stated that "I've used doors, umbrellas, apples, brooms—and just about everything you can think of—as props. At a democratic convention in Houston, some fun-loving fellow handcuffed me to a bench in the hall. I lugged it inside, obtained my freedom and also a badge to the convention."

Connelly gave up gate crashing eight years ago and he worked as chef and greeter in taverns, elevator operator and finally as usher at sports and political events where he specialized at spotting gate crashers at world series. He was dismissed when he ejected P. K. Wrigley, Jr. in 1945 from Wrigley field in the game between Chicago Cubs and Detroit Tigers. When the team owner identified himself, Connelly told him, "That's for the birds."

Connelly showed originality, ingenuity and persistence enough to have made a success in legitimate industry—but the joy of his life was the excitement of gate crashing.—G. P.

## NEW BONNEVILLE ADMINISTRATOR

Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay promptly appointed Dr. William A. Pearl of Washington State college administrator of the Bonneville Power administration as soon as the resignation of Paul Raver had cleared through official channels.

The public, in Oregon at least, finds Dr. Pearl a new name and a new face, though he is probably much better known in his own state. He is a graduate engineer and educator of long and successful experience, though he has never before administered a large organization.

The best qualified men by experience are those who have actually operated electric power systems, but here McKay must have run into the fact that all of these are either private power men or public power men. Few have had experience in both and virtually none hold a balanced, objective view between the two.

It is akin to the difficulty a president finds in appointing a secretary of labor. Labor leaders are of the A.F.L., C.I.O. United Mine Workers or Railway Brotherhood groups. Each has his loyalties and his aversions. It is virtually impossible to find one who is looked upon as fair by the others. For this reason most labor secretaries have come from outside labor ranks for many years past and it is probably just as important that a Bonneville administrator come from outside the active power ranks.

Dr. Pearl is evidently satisfactory to the private power interests and therefore unsatisfactory to the public power interests. This is to be expected, for while the Eisenhower administration expects to continue and to expand the Bonneville operation it will no longer be used as a medium for propaganda in behalf of public power. It will be operated as a government business, serving the region, and incidentally the taxpayers of the entire nation who put up the money that created it.

Dr. Pearl will evidently administer Bonneville according to this pattern. If he does we believe the results will be satisfactory to most of the people of the region and the country. There is no occasion for Bonneville to be operated for the promotion of socialism in electric power. The people elected Eisenhower, not Stevenson as president.

## SLOTS LEGAL IN ONLY ONE STATE

Slot machines have been legal in only two states in recent years, in Nevada without restriction and in Idaho under certain circumstances. Municipalities could decide by local option whether they wanted them. Nearly all the larger cities voted them out, but many smaller towns tolerated them in order to collect revenue. Some taxed slot "take" as high as 50 per cent.

Last week the Idaho Supreme Court unanimously decided that the slot machine is forbidden by a state constitutional provision against gambling. This has been in force for many years, and district judges have from time to time ruled that it applied to slot machines. But the cases were never appealed by the operators, who studiously kept the issue from reaching the highest court, whose ruling would establish the law for the entire state.

Finally this happened and the result was as expected. Slot machines are illegal. Prosecuting attorneys of the various counties have been setting deadlines after which the machines would be raided and confiscated. Hundreds of them are reported being hurriedly transported to Nevada where they can continue to operate.

Whether slot machines will soon begin reappearing in the back rooms of some of the places from which they are now being removed is a question whose answer is not now at hand, but the constitution is not self-enforcing in Idaho or anywhere else. And the usual experience is that law enforcement or lack of it closely follows local attitudes.

So it will be no surprise if slot machines continue to operate in some of the "back country" points in Idaho while they remain banned in the larger towns where sentiment has already been demonstrated as strongly against them.

## RANDOM MEMORIES OF 1953



## POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

### Hal Forecasts the Future, But in a Whimsical Vein

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—What lies in store in 1954 for all us survivors of the debris of 1953?

Well, our clouded crystal ball seems to have more smog in it than usual, but here are a few fuzzy forecasts of what you can look for in the coming year:

The sale of wheelchairs will rise and the sale of diapers decline, as the population gets a bit older.

Five new cure cures for falling hair will hit the market, and 10 million American men will go on getting bald and bald. More women will begin going bald, too, as their campaign for equal rights with men moves on to a new frontier.

A restaurant chain will feature a five-cent hamburger, served with a 3D polaroid lens to give it an air of realism.

A new breed of hunting dog trained to find a car parking space will be developed. This loyal animal, after locating a place to park, will bay the news to its master and fight off other motorists with its teeth until its owner can drive up.

The \$2 haircut will make its appearance, and then a thousand editorial writers will lament, "Whatever became of the good old two-bit haircut?" Wives will begin cutting their husbands' hair.

On Jan. 23 a man in Zanesville, O., will claim he saw the first robin of spring. The next day Pravda will denounce him as a capitalist tool, and point that the first robin of spring actually was glimpsed by a Russian serf on January 4th near Minsk in the year 1802. Pravda will also recall it was the Russians who first invented popcorn, the five-cent cigar, Christmas tree lights and the safety razor.

Mink coats again will become popular in the nation's capital as people realize that this fur, once the badge of Democratic opportunism, now is a sign of Republican prosperity. As a matter of fact everybody will be wearing mink coats but the minks themselves.

As television sets get larger and new homes get smaller, a combined product will appear—a TV set which actually takes the place of a living room. You live inside it, and the screen serves as a window. You can add other rooms—a kitchen, a bedroom, and bathroom as your family increases. The first model will sell for \$5,000, complete with a free elm tree to shade it.

Science will come up with a cheap home hydrogen bomb kit. This will enable everybody who doesn't like the community he lives in to make his own bomb and blow his neighbors off the map.

Coach Frank Leahy and Casey Stengel will be rival strategists in the biggest contest of 1954—a match between Notre Dame and the New York Yankees. This will settle the hottest question in the field of sports—whether a top amateur football team can beat a champion professional baseball team. The game will consist of two quarters of football and

five innings of baseball, and just to keep things even, each side will have 10 men.

The movies will make a real comeback in the entertainment world with still another gimmick—by adding a fourth dimension to Marilyn Monroe. Radio will fight television by putting out sets with a screen that never lights up and on which you are positively guaranteed you will never see anything. You just look at it and enjoy your own thoughts.

The Army will come up with a new dehydrated combat ration in a plastic container. You remove the food, put it in your rifle and fire it at the enemy—then eat the container, which contains a drug to reduce overweight, cure hiccups, and give a soldier a feeling of general well being.

As to the problem of communism, international crises, taxes, the weather, and the common cold—they'll be as before through '54 and probably just as alive in '55.

## Salem 31 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

December 29, 1922  
George E. Halvorsen, retiring mayor of Salem, had said that the city would be ready soon for a change from aldermanic to a commission form of government. (This was consummated 25 years later).

Oil leases had been filed covering land southeast of St. Paul and northeast of Woodburn.

All clerks and carriers at the postoffice had received a necktie apiece as a gift from the G. E. Johnson clothing company on State street.

W. M. Hamilton had been nominated as King Bing Bill the Third of Salem Cherrians and would assume the royal purple come Tuesday.

Farmers living in Polk and Marion counties and within the trading area of Salem were receiving \$250 daily for paper wood delivered to Oregon Pulp & Paper Co.

A warranty deed had been filed in which the McCornack building (Miller's store) had been conveyed to Dr. B. L. Steeves and W. W. Moore.

People's Cash store had a pre-inventory sale underway at which women's three-quarter length plush coats, regularly priced at \$32.50 were reduced to \$14.75.

Prayer week in Salem had been set for the week beginning January 1, 1923.

Ben Rider, Homer Best and W. F. Crane, Salem boys, were to enter the New Year's Motorcycle run to be held in Eugene January 1.

First Methodist church at Woodburn had received a \$300 gift by terms of the will and testament of James A. Austin who had recently died at Woodburn.

## Issues in 1954

By RAYMOND MOLEY

There is something refreshingly new in the approach of President Eisenhower to tough political problems. The most recent example of that is the program of generalities that came out after the recent White House conference of Republican leaders. It is clear that the President and his immediate official White House family feel that it will be very effective to have a nice list of laws passed by the forthcoming session of congress and to go forth next autumn and tell the people all about them. This is a fine thought to have around this holiday season, but, like some Christmas neckties, these hopes will be limp and faded by Easter. And then, come Labor day, it will be the fierce attacks of the opposition that will make the issues.

The best thing that seemed to come from the White House parleys was the manifest good will in which the conferences were held. In that the president is a master, however much he may have to learn about the hard ways of politics. He will need all of that fund of good will as things unfold in the months to come. For on questions like the amendment of the Taft-Hartley act, farm supports, tariff reductions, and foreign aid, the differences between the president's advisers and the preponderant Republican group in congress are wide and deep.

There is still a resentment that approaches bitterness about the utter failure of the administration to make any considerable progress in riding itself of personnel in the departments who find it easy and convenient to frustrate efforts to carry out campaign promises. This resentment is not entirely because so few jobs have been provided for Republicans, but it is also because the administration, except for a few top people, is much the same as it was when Candidate Eisenhower in 1952 promised to clean it out.

The attacks of Senators like Morse, Kefauver and Humphrey will grow in intensity, and we can have a fairly good idea now of what they will be. The old spectre of "big business" will be prominent. In many states new dealers will be campaigning vigorously on the issue of electric power. They will say that the administration has "sold out" to the "interests." Morse will be even more the incorrigible nuisance than he was in the last session. He claims that he has traveled more and made more speeches than any other senator in the recess. Those speeches were made to local audiences and fortunately have not encumbered the Congressional Record—as yet. He says that he intends to oppose practically everything, particularly any effort to remove people not under civil service. The theme of his story will be that the country is unhappy over Republican rule and is waiting for the first chance to change it all.

Kefauver is running not only for re-election to the Senate, but undoubtedly for the presidency in 1956. His attacks upon Republican policies will, except in the south, be much

## WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

### McCarthy's Richest Backer Makes Million After Taxes

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—There is no incentive to stage oratorical gymnastics.

The other day, however, Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon made an unpublished statement before the D. C. committee which may set an important precedent. The committee had ordered Commissioner Charles Mahaffie of the Interstate Commerce Commission, plus two ex-commissioners, to appear before it to explain why they had made a certain ruling regarding the Capital Transit company which supplies bus and streetcar service to Washington.

So many government officials have been indiscriminately hauled before Congress since McCarthy set certain precedents that no one worried over the propriety of quizzing quasi-judicial officials. However, as the hearing was about to start, Senator Morse interrupted.

"This committee has no power," he said, "to summon any judicial officer who is not under impeachment proceedings."

"I will be no party to breaking down the traditional separation of the judiciary from other branches of government," Morse continued. "The Interstate Commerce Commission is a quasi-judicial tribunal, and we of the Senate have no right to question its members on how they arrived at a decision regarding the Capital Transit company or any other company. We can ask their views about needed legislation, but we can't question their decisions. They are symbols of the judicial process."

"Furthermore, they have no right voluntarily to answer these questions," the Oregon senator continued. "We cannot establish a precedent here for breaking down separation of the three branches of government."

Senator Beall of Maryland, who presided, immediately concurred. Apologies were made to the three ICC commissioners and they were excused.

Note—The above precedent will be important. Senator Welker of Idaho tried to violate it in Denver recently by quizzing U. S. District Judge Ritter during the probe of FBI absention from the Smaldone jury-tampering case. He was promptly cracked over the knuckles by Judge Ritter.

United Fund Success Bend Bulletin  
The United Fund drive hasn't taken long, not nearly as long as the procession of drives for this and that cause or activity used to take. Moreover, it has been successful.

When charities and social and health programs were financed one by one through public subscription, success was by no means uniform. Frequently a drive petered out far short of the mark. People became fed up with drives—the people whose contributions were sought and the people who asked them. No wonder. They went on through the year; the soliciting, committees were often made up of men and women who had served only a week or two before and who presently would be asked or pressured into serving again. Inevitably the sources of donations were the same from one campaign to the next.

Now one drive does it. "A little clean-up work and this United Fund, like the first one gathered last year, will be complete. A fine response by a wide range of donors and a well organized, coordinated job by the UF committees are to be credited with the result.

What made the anti-Communists particularly sore was the report that Soviet Ambassador Vinograd was directing French Communist strategy in the presidential voting. He knew that a deadlock would split France wide open.

Note—Meanwhile John Foster Dulles' veiled threat to France to join the United European army has boomeranged like the Viscount Ishii statement in Japan that an act of Congress barring Japanese immigrants would be considered unfriendly. The U. S. Congress immediately passed the Japanese immigration ban as a slap at Tokyo, and it looks like France was reacting to Dulles in the same way. No country likes to be bossed.

MORSE SETS PRECEDENT  
The Senate committee on the District of Columbia seldom makes headlines. People don't vote in the District of Columbia, so no politics are at stake

more vigorous than the mild banter of Stevenson. Faced by such opposition, Republican candidates will build their own arguments. They are not going to campaign as the White House dictates. They will fire with whatever ammunition they find to be most effective.

## OPEN FORUM

### Dorman Says State Not To Manufacture Point

The following letter was written by Harry S. Dorman, director of the state's Department of Finance and Administration, addressed to George Baker, Salem route three, answering a letter by Baker published December 22 in the Capital Journal Forum column.

"Having read your letter in the paper last night I know that you would want to be corrected if your information were wrong. The first statement is one about which you should be warned. Any state official who wishes to remain anonymous in making statements, you may rest assured, is either outright lying or trying to hit someone politically from ambush.

"The Board of Control is the only state agency which could approve such a program as you mention. The point offered would have to be made in an institution and the board is the managing operator of state institutions. The board has no such program and in no meeting of the board has such a proposal been introduced or discussed.

"It now appears that the questionnaire referred to is one being circulated to state departments by the Division of Purchasing for the purpose of obtaining information which may enable the Division to do a better job of buying point for the use of the state. This Department has no idea or intention of proposing state manufacture of point. Anyone reading the questionnaire could not possibly read into any connection with state manufacture. We are quite sure that, should we propose such a program, the legislature would refuse funds. It is certainly the sort of specialized operation that could cost the state a large amount of money, without the assurance of bettering our situation.

"We are now buying satisfactory, and in most cases, highly satisfactory, paints from Oregon manufacturers, nearly 100,000 gallons from a Salem plant in a present contract. This product is the best tested by the state for its purpose and was purchased at a price higher than several brands of less quality that were offered in bids to the state. It is a fine product.

"We have in most cases, found the paint manufacturers honest and dependable in their offers to the Purchasing Division. You should tell your informant to come out from behind the mask if he has anything to offer of benefit to the state. Such a man cannot be a good servant of the people."

MORE "KNOW HOW"  
Gresham Outlook  
Now that rationing and government controls have disappeared, "know how" is coming back into its own again and is replacing "know who" as a means of getting things done.

WHAT! NO COMICS!  
Los Angeles (AP)—Seven-year old Dennis Jensen had only one complaint after he was struck by a streetcar and taken to a hospital in a fancy new ambulance. Ambulances should be equipped with comic books, said Dennis.

HUNTER HITS OWN CAR  
Trenton, Ont. (AP)—Harold Sinclair spotted an object in the bush while hunting near here, fired a volley of four shots and then ran to see what he had bagged. It was his automobile.

WASNT PEACEFUL  
Detroit (AP)—James M. Pease, 30, was placed on six months probation for disturbing the peace.

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